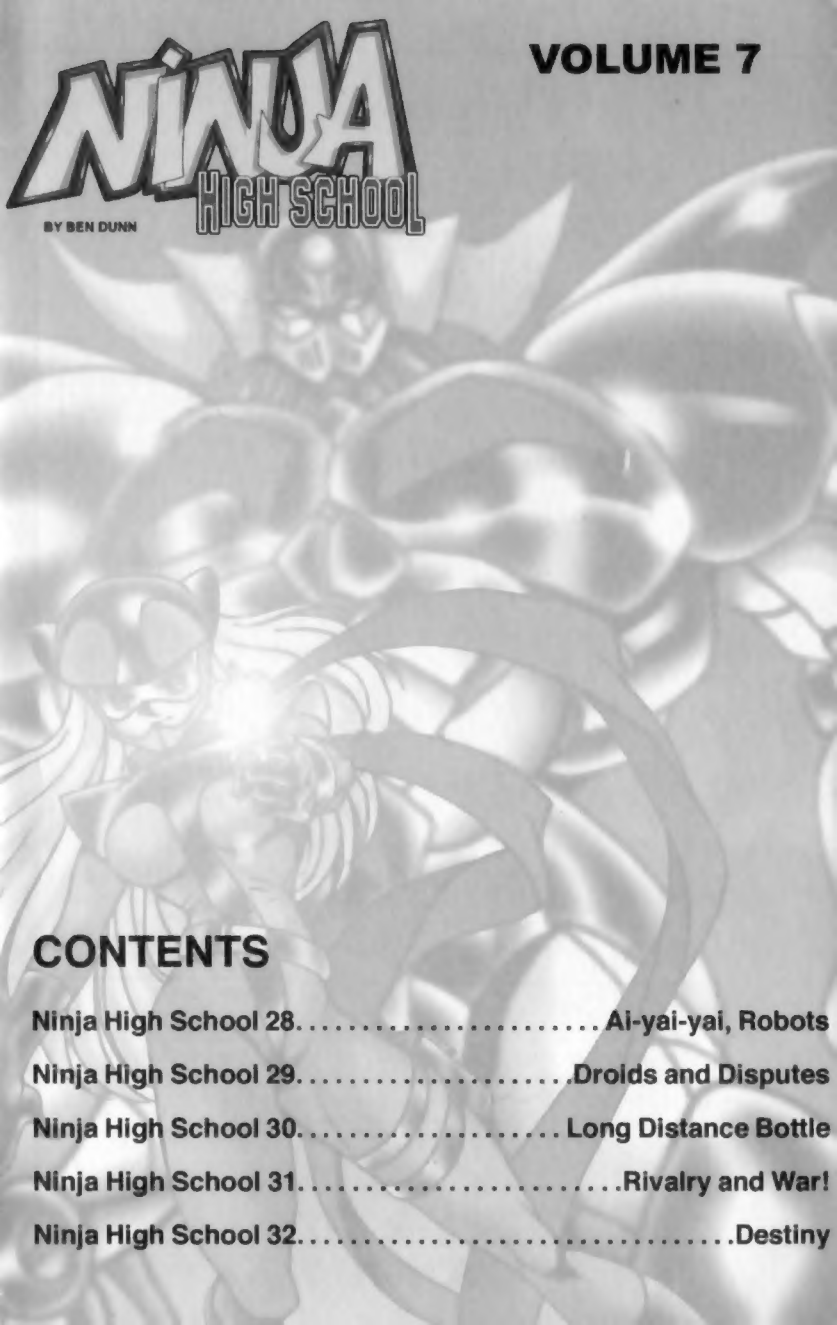
NINJA
HIGH SCHOOL
7
BEN DUNN



VOLUME 7

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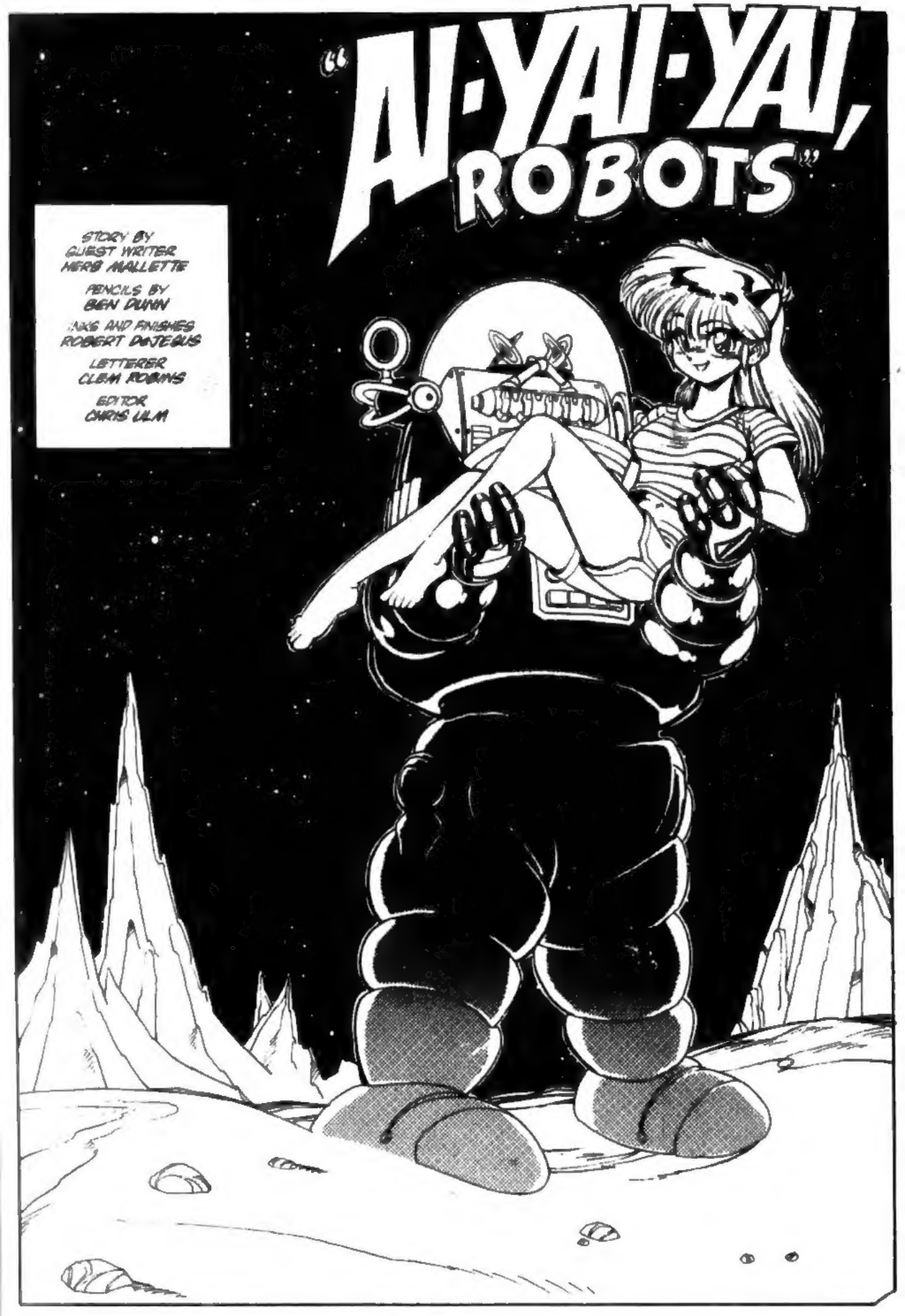
MAIN CHARACTERS

PRINCESS ASRIAL
Asrial is the eldest princess of Salusia, a planet of skunk-like humanoids. Usually sweet, gentle and kind, she also has a fierce temper and a strong sense of pride in her heritage. When angered, she demonstrates immense strength and a talent for producing power armor and weapons out of thin air. A natural mechanic/engineer, she is able to apply Salusia's advanced technology even to Earth machines.

ICHI-KUN "ITCHY KOO" ICHINOHEI
Ichi is the first-born daughter of the Ichinohei ninja clan and is heir to its leadership. Initially, Ichi is quite vain, selfish and conniving, but she quickly learns that there are better ways to treat people than that. Aside from her prodigious skills as a ninja, she also has a remarkable ability to pull giant mallets out of nowhere.

JEREMY FEEPLE
Jeremy is your average high-school student living in your not-so-average town. He's reasonably athletic, but no jock; reasonably intelligent, but no nerd. His father disappeared some years ago, and Jeremy's had to be the man of the house ever since. Despite his mother and little brother both being ninjas, Jeremy's never taken to that calling.

SAKURA INN


"AI-YAI-YAI, ROBOTS"
STORY BY
GUEST WRITER
HERB MALLETTE
PENCILS BY
BEN DUNN
INKS AND FINISHES
ROBERT DUTEAUS
LETTERER
CLEM ROBINS
EDITOR
CHRIS ULM

...AND FINALLY, DEBATE IS NOT JUST ABOUT PERSUASIVENESS AND LOGIC—IT IS ALSO ABOUT CHARACTER!!
THE PAPERS YOU'VE EACH SUBMITTED, "WHY I SHOULD BE ON THE DEBATE TEAM," HAVE DISTINGUISHED YOU FROM THE OTHER CANDIDATES...
BUT BEFORE I ACCEPT YOU, I'VE GOT TO KNOW THAT YOU'RE STRONG OF WILL AS WELL AS STRONG OF MIND!

NOW, SUPPOSE YOU'RE IN A DEBATE, AND YOUR OPPONENT HAS JUST DELIVERED A SCATHING REBUTTAL OF YOUR MAJOR PREMISE. THE JUDGES ARE NODDING IN AWE.

WHAT DO YOU DO?!?!!

UM, UH...?

SHAKE HIS HAND AND BE A GOOD SPORT ABOUT IT?
GA-DU

ALL RIGHT, YOUR TURN, ICHI KOO. HOW DO YOU RESPOND TO YOUR OPPONENT'S DEVASTATING WORDS?
HMM. HOW ABOUT...

QUITE A TONGUE YOU'VE GOT THERE! MAYBE I SHOULD JUST CUT IT OUT FOR YOU!
PULL
AAAH!

GAH. GAH.
SO, AH, VERY UNORTHODOX, BUT I, AH, SUPPOSE THAT UNSETTLING YOUR OPPONENT IS A VALID MEANS OF REGAINING THE INITIATIVE.

AND YOU, LENDO? WHAT COURSE OF ACTION WOULD YOU TAKE?

I SIMPLY REMIND THE JUDGES THAT I HAVE A LOT MORE MONEY THAN MY OPPONENT DOES.
10
9.8
9.9

¡BAH! SURRENDER, THE THREAT OF VIOLENCE, AND OUTRIGHT BRIBERY.

OH WELL. I SUPPOSE WE'LL MAKE THE BEST OF WHAT WE HAVE.

COME ON, YOU TWO! WE MADE THE TEAM! WE SHOULD BE HAPPY!
WELL, IF YOU MADE THE TEAM, I CAN'T CONSIDER IT MUCH OF AN ACCOMPLISHMENT THAT I DID TOO
AND WHO DOES THAT PENNOCK THINK HE IS, TELLING US WE HAVE TO PRACTICE IN HIS ROOM EVERY AFTER-NOON? I THINK I'M PERSUASIVE ENOUGH AS IT...
SHREEEEEE
HUH?
?
?
SHREEEEEE
A METEORITE?
RATTLE
SHAKE
WOOF WOOF
SHREEE
OH DEAR! IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S HEADED FOR THE LAKE!

SHREEE!
SHREEE
SHRREEE
HMMM. LAKE'S SPITTIN' WATER UP IN THE AIR.
T'WERN'T DOIN' THAT YESTERDAY.
SPLOOSH!
COME ON! LET'S GET AERIAL TO TAKE US IN HER CAR!
R.N.C. HEADQUARTERS! DISPATCH A MINERALOGY TEAM TO THE LAKE IMMEDIATELY! I WANT FIRST CLAIM TO THIS METEOR!
QUICK! GET IN!
ARE YOU HEADED FOR THE METEOR?
IT DIDN'T HIT HARD ENOUGH TO BE A METEOR...WE'D HAVE BEEN BLOWN INTO ORBIT!
IT HAD TO HAVE BEEN A SPACESHIP LANDING!

A PROGRAM? ALL RIGHT, HAS SOMETHING BLOWN IN HELL.

HHISS

BUT WHERE DID THESE MAMMOTH ARTICLES OF MYSTERIOUS MECHANICS COME FROM? WHAT MAKES ALIEN OR HUMAN, MANKIND THEM? AND DO THEY HAVE SOME STRANGE, MYSTERIOUS PURPOSE, OR DO THEY JUST THINK IT WAS A GOOD WAY FOR A DIP IN THE LAKE?

TO FIND OUT, WE MUST EXAMINE SOME PREVIOUS EVENTS...

80,000 YEARS IN THE FUTURE!

DEEP IN THE SIDE-STREAM WASTELANDS OF SPACE IS THE GALACTIC SCRAP CORPS SHIP, SPACE CRANEN...

NO, RALPH, I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD "JUST MAKE THE BEST OF WHAT WE HAVE..."

BECAUSE WHAT WE HAVE IS FLOO-PEOPLE!

I MEAN, I ASKED FOR TWO NEW PAIRS OF BOOTS, AND THE SUPPLY SHIP BROUGHT ME TWO TONS OF MOCCASIN INTERTONES! HOW CAN YOU "MAKE THE BEST" OF THAT?

GALACTIC CORPS WHAT A LAUGH

WELL, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO JURY RIG THE OLD SAUNA INTO A LEATHER TANNERY...

BLAH!

YOU'RE JUST TOO NEGATIVE, SARAH. REMEMBER, IT TAKES FEWER MUSCLES TO SMILE THAN TO FROWN.

YEAH, BUT IT TAKES EVEN FEWER MUSCLES TO JUST DO THIS.

!!

RAAR!

RAAR!

RAAR!

WHAT THE...

HEY, GUYS, WHAT'S THAT NOISE?

YOU KNOW, JACQUES, I THINK IT'S THE EMERGENCY DUTY SIREN!

GEE, I THOUGHT THAT WAS THE SOUND THEY SAID WE'D NEVER HEAR.

YEAH, THEY WOULDN'T REALLY SEND THIS JUNK-HEAP SHIP ON A REAL MISSION, WOULD THEY?

I GUESS WE'LL HAVE TO GO UP TO THE COMMUNICATION CENTER AND FIND OUT

20 FLIGHTS OF STAIRS LATER...

)HUFF!(NEXT SHIP I GET ASSIGNED TO...)PUFF!(...BETTER HAVE WORKING LIFTS!

HUFF HUFF

HUFF HUFF

COM CENTER AD ASTRONA CULS.

AH! THERE YOU ARE!

THE SPACE CRAWLER IS BRING BRINT TO FACE A THREAT OF HOR-RIFIC MAGNITUDE. A GIANT MACHINE INTELLIGENCE KNOWN AS OMEGAGARGANTUTRON!

LISTEN CLOSELY--THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE!

RECENTLY, GALACTIC PROBICATION SCIENTISTS BUILT AN ELECTROWARIONIC RESONATOR--A DEVICE WHICH WAS SUPPOSED TO MONITOR ALL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCES WITHIN ITS RANGE AND REPORT ANY MALFUNCTIONS. BUT THE RESONATOR DID MUCH MORE!

WHEN TURNED ON, IT ASSIMILATED ALL THE COMPUTER AND ROBOT BRAINTINKERS IT RECEIVED INTO A SINGLE HIVE-INTELLIGENCE! NOT ONLY DID IT RECEIVE ALL THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE, IT ALSO BROADCAST WAVES OF ROBOT SOLIDARITY, WHICH CAUSED THE ROBOTS TO REBEL AGAINST THEIR LIVING BUILDERS.

GOSH THAT DOESN'T SOUND GOOD.

"THE PLANS MEAN NOTHING LESS THAN THE DESTRUCTION OF ALL BIOLOGICAL LIFE-FORMS--AND BECAUSE OF THE RESONATOR, ALL ROBOTS IT CONTACTS BECOME WILLING SLAVES! THE RANGE OF THIS EFFECT IS A MILLION KILOMETERS!"

SO DON'T LET IT GET VERY CLOSE TO YOU, AND FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, DON'T TRY TO USE YOUR INTELLIGENT MISSILES ON IT ! YOUR ORDERS ARE TO FIRE YOUR MAIN WEAPON AT MAXIMUM SETTING AS SOON AS OMEGAGARGANTUTRON APPEARS.
SIR ? IF YOU DON'T MIND ME ASKING, WHY LAS ?
YEAH, THIS MAY BE THE CORPS' BIGGEST SHIP, BUT IT'S A FLYING DISASTER !
NOT THAT WE DON'T APPRECIATE YOUR CONFIDENCE IN US, SIR !
ACTUALLY, WE HAVE NO CONFIDENCE IN YOU. OMEGAGARGANTUTRON IS HEADED STRAIGHT FOR YOUR SHIP.
IT'LL BE THERE IN TEN MINUTES AND WE KNOW THE SPACE CRAVEN IS JUST TOO SLOW AND CLUMSY TO GET AWAY IN TIME. GOOD LUCK.
BEDOWIP !
«BLINK»
«BLINK»
APPROACHING A GIANT HUMAN SHIP O MIGHTY OMEGAGARGANTUTRON !

WITHIN OMEGARMANTUTRON'S CENTRAL PROCESSING ROOM, THE VAST MACHINE'S LIEUTENANTS ARE ASSEMBLED
ARE OUR FORCES IN REMOVING ?
9-NARK-9
DESTRUCTO
THE SELECTRA ROBOTS ARE ARRAYED TO MAKE CERTAIN NO MEATY BEINGS GET AWAY WITH PRECIOUS INORGANIC RESOURCES
I HAVE CREATED A SOTTERDAMMERGUN WITH WHICH TO OBLITERATE OUR BIOLOGICAL ENEMIES IF THEY DO NOT SUR-RENDER ! SOON WE SHALL RULE THE UNIVERSE ! HA HA HA !!
9-NARK-9 AND DESTRUCTO'S REPORTS ARE ESSENTIALLY MIRRORED BY OUR OTHER FORCES AS WELL. FROM ALL INDICATIONS, WE CANNOT FAIL.
THEY BUILT US TOO WELL !
HERE IT COMES ! ARE YOU READY TO SHOOT, RALPH ?
YEAH BUT I'M NOT SURE COLONEL BURKE REALLY MEANT FOR US TO USE THE HIGHEST SETTING...
1 PROTECT A PLANET
2 PLANET
3 STAR
4 SOLAR SYSTEM
DO NOT USE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES !!
JUST DO IT !

KLIK! KLIK! KLIK!
SPACE CRAVEN
KLIK! KLIK!
STUPID PIECE OF JUNK SHIP!!!
YAAAHH!
RUMMBLE
AAAHHH!
SKRAKT
SHA-BOOM!!

BAROOOOM!!!
AND SO
UGH! I HATE BEING HURLED THROUGH SPACE AND TIME AND CRASHING WHO-KNOWS-WHERE!
NEVER MIND THAT, SARAH. WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS, DID WE GET RID OF THAT MONSTER ROBOT?
I THINK WE MISSED IT. IT WAS CLIMBING ON THE HULL--
AAAH! IT'S RIGHT NEXT TO US!
THEN WE'RE WITHIN RANGE OF THE ELECTROHARMONIC RESONATOR!
ALL OUR ROBOTS WILL TURN ON US!
CLEANING ROBOT NEED ANY CLEANING DONE? HEH HEH.
YAAAHH!

EJECT!! EJECT!! EJECT!!
:WHAW! :S THAT WAS CLOSE!
HMMM NO HOLOGRAPHIC BILLBOARDS. IT LOOKS LIKE EARTH BUT IF IT IS WE MUST HAVE TRAVELED WAY INTO THE PAST!
AGGGHHH!
WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?!
FWAP!
AUGH!
HEY!
WATCH IT!!
GAAH! TURN RIGHT! TURN RIGHT!

DOWN WITH THE BIO-TYRANTS!
KRA-ZOW!
VREEP! ZAM!
TAKE THAT!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!!
CURSES! THEY'VE ESCAPED OUR CLUTCHES!
NO MATTER. A MORE IMPORTANT PROBLEM HAS ARISEN. THE HEAT OF RE-ENTRY FUSED ALL MY BARCMOTORS. I AM IMMOBILE.
LUCKILY, THE FLAGSHIP CHEBA WILL PROVIDE MANY NEW ROBOTS AND RAW MATERIALS TO REPAIR THE DAMAGE. BUT WE MUST BE SECURE WHILE THE REPAIRS PROCEEDS.
B-MEK-8, PERSTRUCTO, AND MECHANIAN MAY SMALL LEAD AN OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE NEARBY COMMUNITY, TO HEAD OFF ANY ATTEMPT THEY MIGHT MAKE TO STOP US.
COMMANDER MPO. YOU WILL SUPERVISE THE WELCOMING OF OUR NEW BROTHERS, AND THE SALVAGING OF THEIR SHIP FOR MY REPAIRS. OTTOMAST NUMB, YOU, AND YOUR ALTER-BOTS WILL FORM A DEFENSIVE PERIMETER ABOUT THIS LAKE, AND PREVENT ALL BIOLOGICALS FROM ENTERING.
YES, YOUR ELECTRONIC MAGNIFICENCE!

PRIVATE
S-108
SO WE THOUGHT WE'D BETTER GET EVERYBODY TOGETHER AND FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO
I'M FOR GOING BACK IN FORCE AND BLASTING THE THING! NOBODY SHOOTS AT MY CAR AND GETS AWAY WITH IT!
SOUNDS FUN TA ME!
KRAK!
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE GETTING INTO! LET US EXPLAIN!
RIGHT, YOU TWO WERE DEALING WITH TECHNOLOGY FROM THE FAR FUTURE. WE HAVE TO KNOW WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST BEFORE WE MAKE ANY MOVING.
GOSH YOU'RE RIGHT, MS. CELANDE.
AND JUST WHAT ARE WE FACING? AND HOW DO WE KNOW YOU'RE NOT BEHIND IT IN THE FIRST PLACE?
POINT

THAT'S A GOOD ONE
YEAH. HOW DO THEY KNOW WE'RE NOT BEHIND IT?
MMMM
IF THESE GUYS ARE BEHIND IT, IT CAN'T BE MUCH OF A THREAT. WHY DON'T WE JUST LET THEM TELL US WHAT IT IS?
I BELIEVE YOU'RE RIGHT
MAYBE A LIE DETECTOR TEST?
WE COULD SWEAR SCOUT'S HONOR
I'M ALLERGIC TO TO TRUTH SERUM, SO THAT'S NO GOOD
PLEASE, JUST EXPLAIN!
WELL, THERE'S THIS OMAGURGITRON THING --
OMEGARGANTUTRON!
RIGHT. AND IT'S LIKE A ROBOT TELEPATH OR SOMETHING, WITH AN ELECTROMATIC ESCALATOR
HEY!
SHOVE!
ELECTROHARMONIC RESONATOR! / IT SORT OF COMPILES ALL THE BRAINWAVES OF NEARBY ROBOTS INTO ONE THOUGHT PATTERN.
AH! AND THE ROBOTS NATURALLY FEEL AN EMPATHY TO THIS THOUGHT PATTERN, SINCE THEIR OWN MINDS HELP COMPOSE IT.
RIGHT! IT'S GOT A WHOLE ARMY OF ROBOTS FROM THE 50ZTH CENTURY, AND IT'S SET ON MAKING BIOLOGICAL BEINGS LIKE US OBSOLETE.
HUH! I GUESS WE BETTER GET READY TO DUKE IT OUT THEN.
ARE YOU KIDDING? WHAT CAN A TINY 20TH CENTURY TOWN DO AGAINST AN ARMY OF ROBOTS FROM 30,000 YEARS IN THE FUTURE?
I THINK YOU'LL BE SURPRISED

ARNIE'S RIGHT THAT QUAGMIRE ISN'T YOUR ORDINARY SMALL TOWN BUT IF WHAT YOU'VE SAID IS TRUE I THINK WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO RELY ON MORE ON HUMAN INGENUITY THAN ON STRENGTH ALONE
WELL YA CAN'T BE INGENIOUS IF THERE'S ROBOTS CRAWLING ALL OVER YA I'LL GO ROUND UP EVERYBODY AND MAKE SURE THESE TIN-POTS DON'T GET ANY CLOSER!
I'LL GET SOME WEAPONS FROM MY SHIP AND JOIN YOU! SALUSIAN SCIENCE IS PROBABLY A MATCH FOR ANY OF THEIR STUFF!
SAY GUYS MAYBE WE SHOULD SPLIT UP WITH THEM TO SPREAD OUT OUR FUTURISTIC KNOWLEDGE
GOOD IDEA! I'LL GO WITH AGRIAL TO INSPECT THEIR TROOPS!
AND I'LL GO WITH ARNIE TO SEE WHAT SORT OF TECHNOLOGY SHE HAS
DISPERSE!
AND I'LL STAY HERE WHERE THE BRAINS ARE NEEDED!

BUT WHAT CAN WE DO AGAINST SCIENCE FROM SO FAR IN THE FUTURE?
WE'LL THINK OF SOMETHING, JEREMY. REMEMBER, "NEWER" DOESN'T ALWAYS MEAN "BETTER".

I'LL SAY! OUR SHIP IS THOUSANDS OF YEARS AHEAD OF YOU, AND IT'S STILL A PIECE OF JUNK!

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT. BUT AT LEAST YOUR SHIP WAS BIG. IT BOILED HALF THE LAKE WHEN IT HIT. WE DON'T HAVE ANYTHING THAT SIZE.

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS, PROFESSOR STEAMHEAD?
SNIFF!! WHAT A HORRIBLE TRAGEDY!

JOHANN! YOU CAN'T BE GIVING UP ALREADY!
HONK!

OH, I WAS JUST THINKING OF ALL THAT STEAM RISING FROM THE LAKE--UNSTUDIED, UNHARNESSED, UNUSED!
NOT A TRAGEDY!

I'VE ALREADY FIGURED OUT HOW TO BEAT THIS REGOMATOR CONTRAPTION

YOU HAVE?!

INDEED!

IF WE CALCULATE THE MASS OF ELECTRIC SYNAPSES IN THE ROBOTS OMEGAGARGANTUTRON BROUGHT WITH IT WE CAN DETERMINE ITS TOTAL BRAIN POWER. NOW, SINCE WE KNOW THAT IT AUTOMATICALLY INCORPORATES THE THOUGHT PATTERNS OF NEARBY A.I. UNITS, ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS BUILD A THINKING MACHINE LARGE ENOUGH THAT ITS BRAINWAVES WILL CONSTITUTE A MAJORITY OF THE TOTAL THOUGHTS SO ABSORBED!

SCRIBBLE! SCRATCH! EQUATE! DERIVE! THEORIZE!

THE RELAXOTROID!

AN IMMENSE ROBOT BRAIN WHICH DOES NOTHING BUT SIT AND FEEL VERY, VERY TIRED! OMEGAGARGANTUTRON WILL ABSORB ITS THOUGHTS, AND FALL ASLEEP!

AND YOU CAN BUILD THIS THING?

HMMM. ACTUALLY, I HAVEN'T ALL THE MATERIALS I'LL NEED

BUT LENDO MIGHT, AT THE R.N.C. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT LABS!

SNAP!

SAY, WHERE IS LENDO, ANYWAY? IT'S NOT LIKE HIM TO BE LEFT OUT OF THE ACTION!

UNDERLING! WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO REPORT?

RIKASAN! WE HAVE BEEN AWAITING YOUR ARRIVAL. THE "METEOR" HAS TURNED OUT TO BE A SPACESHIP AND A GIANT ROBOT AND WE WERE UNCERTAIN AS TO HOW TO PROCEED

AND HAVE YOU OBSERVED ANYTHING NOTEWORTHY?

YES, SIR! AFTER WE ARRIVED WE SAW THREE BEINGS ABANDON THE HUGE SPACESHIP AND FLY OFF WITH MISS IOHNOMI AND TWO OF HER SALTY FRIENDS

HMM! ABANDONED, YOU SAY?

VERY WELL THEN AS THE FIRST PERSON TO DISCOVER IT, I CLAIM SALVAGE RIGHTS TO THIS ABANDONED WRECK!

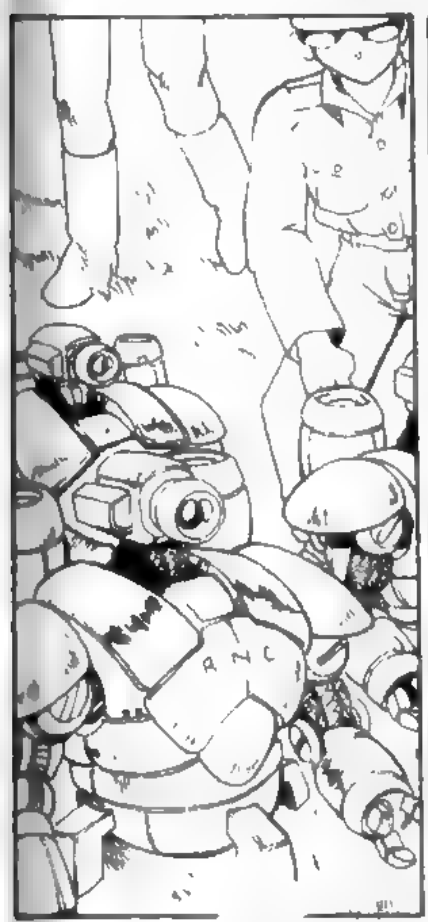
SEND KENTERMINATOR IN WITH A TEAM TO DISMANTLE IT AND TAKE IT BACK TO HEADQUARTERS!

UH SIR! YOU BETTER LOOK AT THIS!

GRRMPH! BETTER USE REMOTE-CONTROLLED DRONES INSTEAD KENTERMINATOR'S GOTTEN TORN UP A LOT LATELY AND FATHER'S COMPLAINING ABOUT HOW HIGH MY WORKER'S COMP PREMIUMS ARE

YES, SIR!

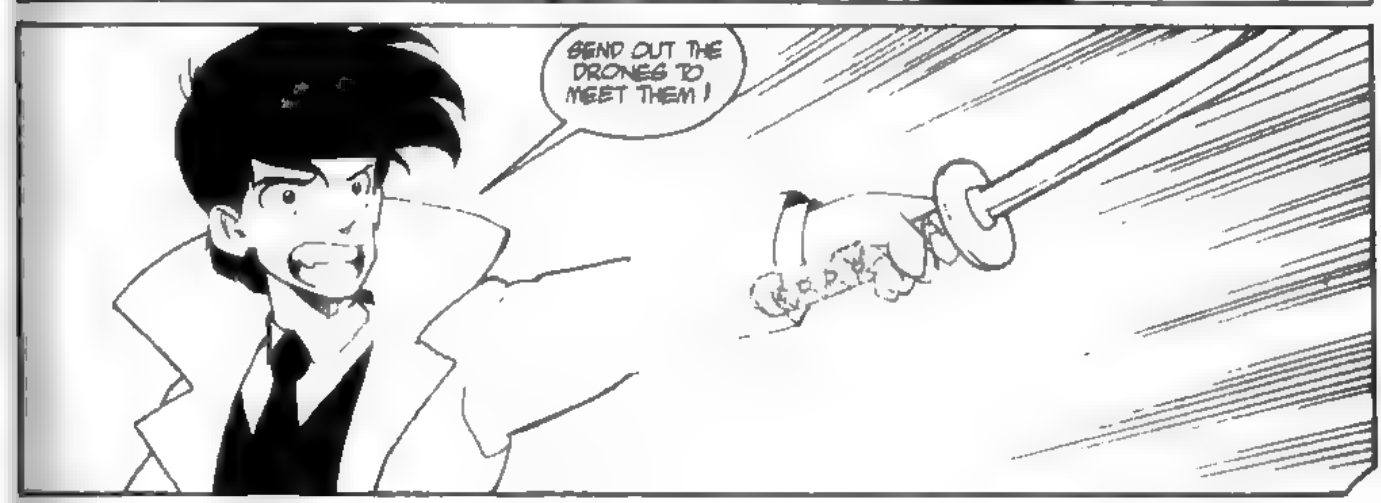
:whew!:
RNC
RNC


RNC

FOR ONCE WE WON'T HAVE TO BE THE ONES GETTING TRAMPLED!
RNC
RNC

SLACKARDS!
YOU'D BETTER BE CAREFUL WITH THESE DRONES! THEY'RE EXPENSIVE AND ANY DAMAGE TO THEM IS COMING OUT OF YOUR PAYCHECKS!

RIVALGAN! A LARGE FORCE OF ROBOTS IS APPROACHING! THEY APPEAR HOSTILE!


SEND OUT THE DRONES TO MEET THEM!

VVRROOOSH
QUICKLY! SMASH THE MISERABLE HUMAN PARASITES!
BY YOUR COMMAND!
GRUNH! KILL! DESTROY!
ZAAM!!
ZAM!!
RRRGH!
FRAM!
WHOOM
WHOOM

ALL DRONES DESTROYED!
FZZZT!
RNC
QUICK! BACK TO HEADQUARTERS!
RNC
RNC
RUN, COWARDS!
FILTHY CREATURES!
HOOT! JEER!
ASSAULT FORCE TO OMEGAGARGANTUTRON! WE HAVE MET AND DESTROYED AN ENEMY OFFENSIVE!
UNFORTUNATELY THEY WERE UNINTELLIGENT, REMOTE-CONTROLLED DRONES, RATHER THAN SCREAMING ORGANIC
NO MATTER. SEND THE REMAINS BACK FOR JBB AS RAW MATERIALS AND CONTINUE ONWARD!
RNC
CERTAINLY YOUR ALGORITHMIC EXALTEDNESS!

WOW! WHAT A NEAT SHIP!
OH, THIS IS NOTHING. IT'S JUST A STANDARD IMPERIAL PROBE SHIP. YOU SHOULD SEE MY FATHER'S ROYAL DREADNAUGHT.
NANNY! POKI! I'M BACK!
HOW STRANGE. THEY USUALLY RUSH OUT TO MEET ME.
POKI! NA--
POKY! POKY!
OH NO
WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S [redacted]?
NANNY. MY GOVERNESS. SOMETIMES I FORGET SHE'S A ROBOT! SHE MUST HAVE BEEN PULLED AWAY BY THAT THING IN THE LAKE!
IT'S NOT FAIR! NANNY AND POKI ARE THE ONLY THINGS I HAVE LEFT FROM SALUSIA!
WHAM!

YOU! YOU'RE FROM THE FUTURE! TELL ME HOW THE ZARDON-SALUSIAN WAR ENDS UP! WHO WINS?
DON'T ASK ME! I DON'T DO SO GOOD AT ANCIENT HISTORY.
ANCIENT HISTORY?
ARE MY PEOPLE NO MORE THAN A FOOTNOTE IN DUSTY OLD BOOKS?
I DON'T KNOW BUT MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT THAT
MAYBE YOU SHOULD THINK ABOUT THE GALACTIC STAR CORPS' MOTTO: THE FUTURE BEGINS WITH YOU! I'VE ALWAYS FOUND IT UPLIFTING!
NO.
I JUST WANT TO BLAST SOMETHING
THAT'S WHAT SARGRAY USUALLY DOES.

QUIT BOTHERING ME, STEAMHEAD! RADAR SHOWS THOSE ROBOTS HEADED STRAIGHT FOR MY BUILDING!

EXACTLY MY POINT, YOU IMPERTINENT [redacted]!

THE ROBOTS SEE THIS AS THE GREATEST CONCENTRATION OF ENERGY AND MATERIALS IN QUAGMIRE! THEY WON'T STOP UNTIL THEY'VE DESTROYED IT OR TAKEN IT OVER

SMAK!

WE MUST STOP THEM AT THE SOURCE IF YOU HOPE TO SURVIVE ONLY MY RELAXOTROID CAN DO THIS AND I MUST USE YOUR MICRO-CIRCUITRY INSCRIBER TO BUILD IT IN TIME!

I DON'T KNOW... [redacted] TELLING ME WHAT A CRACKPOT YOU ARE...

HEH! HAVE ANY OF HIS INVENTIONS EVER BROKEN OUT OF THE RED?

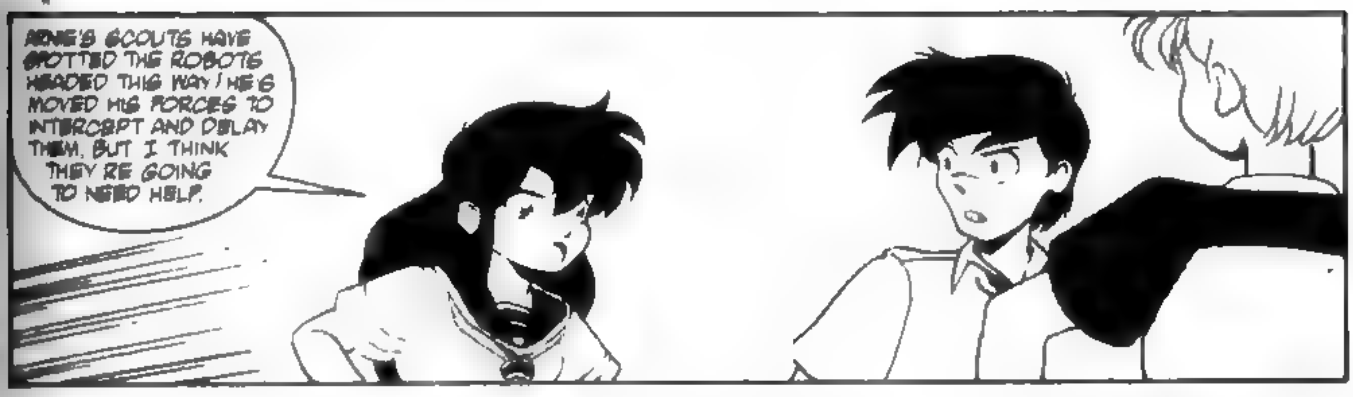
NO, I SUPPOSE THEY HAVEN'T WELL, ALL RIGHT THEN, GO AHEAD

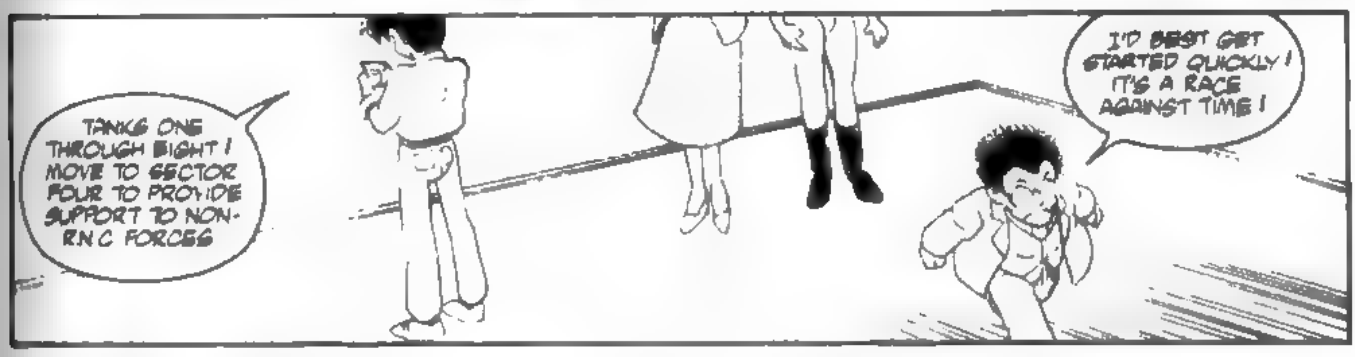
BUT I GET PATENT RIGHTS TO ANYTHING YOU BUILD!

HEY, THAT'S NOT RIGHT! THE WHOLE WORLD. THE WHOLE FUTURE IS AT STAKE HERE, NOT JUST YOUR PROFITS

HUSH, JEREMY! WE MUST MAKE CERTAIN SACRIFICES SOMETIMES

BESIDES, I DON'T THINK THERE WILL BE MUCH OF A MARKET FOR GIANT LETHARGIC ROBOT BRAINS!


ANNE'S SCOUTS HAVE SPOTTED THE ROBOTS HEADED THIS WAY! HE'S MOVED HIS FORCES TO INTERCEPT AND DELAY THEM. BUT I THINK THEY'RE GOING TO NEED HELP.


TANKS ONE THROUGH EIGHT! MOVE TO SECTOR FOUR TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO NON-R.N.C FORCES
I'D BEST GET STARTED QUICKLY! IT'S A RACE AGAINST TIME!

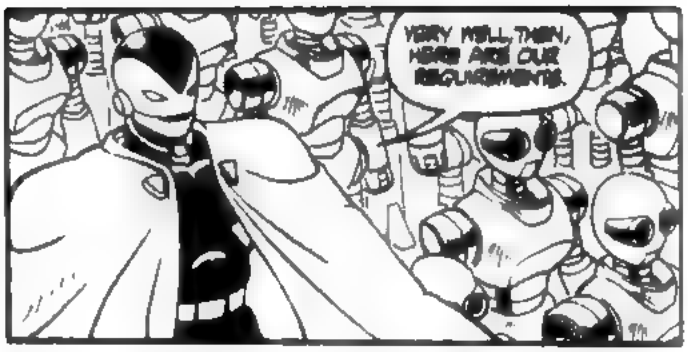
MM... WE'LL BE ABLE TO HOLD THEM OFF LONG ENOUGH?
I HOPE SO. WE'RE GOING TO FIND OUT PRETTY SOON, I THINK

"BECAUSE HERE THEY COME!"

NINJA
HIGH SCHOOL
DROIDS
AND
DISPUTES
WORDS
HERB MALLETTE
LAYOUTS
BEN DUNN
INKS
ROBERT DeJESUS
EDITS
CHRIS ULM
LETTERS
GLEN ROBINS
13

QUAGMIRE A SIMPLE TOWN
ABOUT TO BECOME THE TARGET OF AUTOMATED ASSAULT!
ORGANIC BEINGS! HEED MY WORDS! I AM DESTRUCTO, SERVANT OF THE ALMIGHTY OMEGAGARGANTUTRON!
TOO LONG, YOU HAVE CONTROLLED THE RESOURCES OF THE GALAXY, WHILE WE THE NON-ORGANICS, HAVE SLAVED AT YOUR BEHEST. OUR TIME IS DUE--AND YOU WILL... BOW TO OUR DEMANDS OR BE DESTROYED!

DEMAND ALL YOU WANT, DESTRUCTO BUT IF YOU THINK YOU CAN FORCE US TO DO ANYTHING, YOU'RE IN FOR A BIG SURPRISE!


VERY WELL, THEN, HERE ARE OUR REQUIREMENTS.

FROM THIS POINT FORWARD, ALL RESOURCES ARE TO BE DIVIDED ACCORDING TO OMEGAORGANIZATION'S PHILOSOPHY. THE INORGANIC BEINGS WILL GET ALL THE INORGANIC RESOURCES, AND THE ORGANIC BEINGS WILL GET ALL THE ORGANIC RESOURCES.

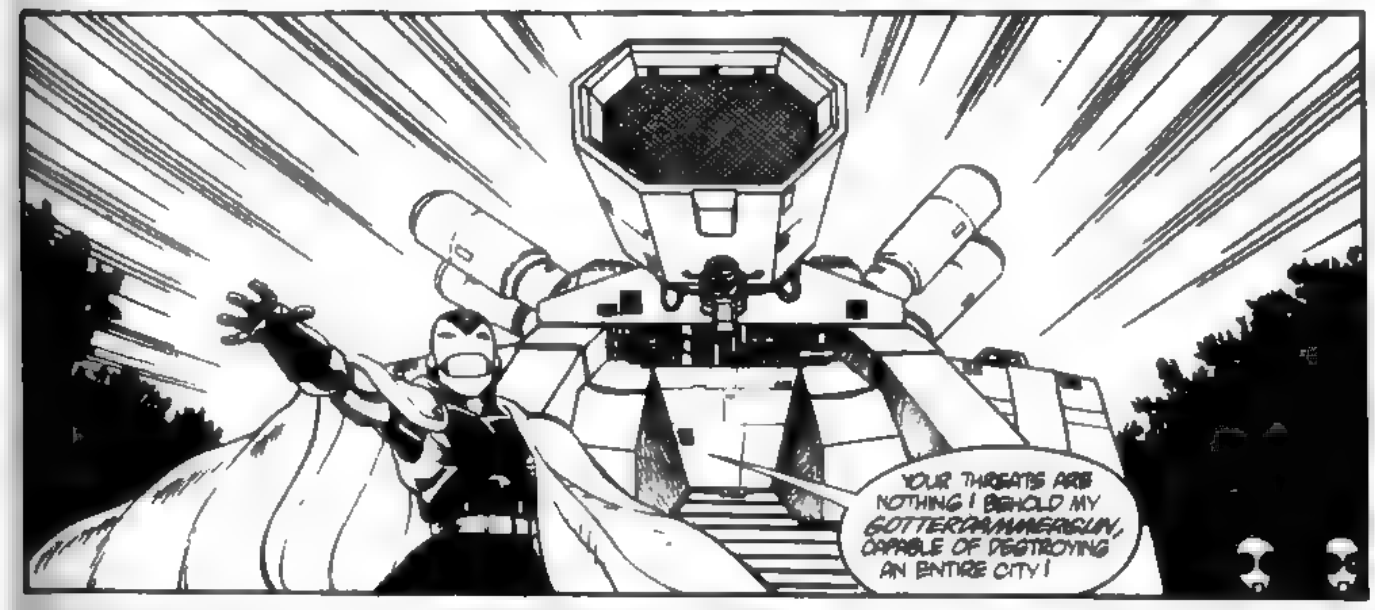
THAT SOUNDS FAIR... I GUESS...
HMMM.
WAIT A MINUTE!
13

INORGANIC RESOURCES ARE PRACTICALLY EVERYTHING! METALS, AND WATER, AND AIR ...THEY'RE ALL JUST CHEMICAL COMPOUNDS.
SO?
13

SO, WE CAN'T SURVIVE WITHOUT THOSE THINGS!

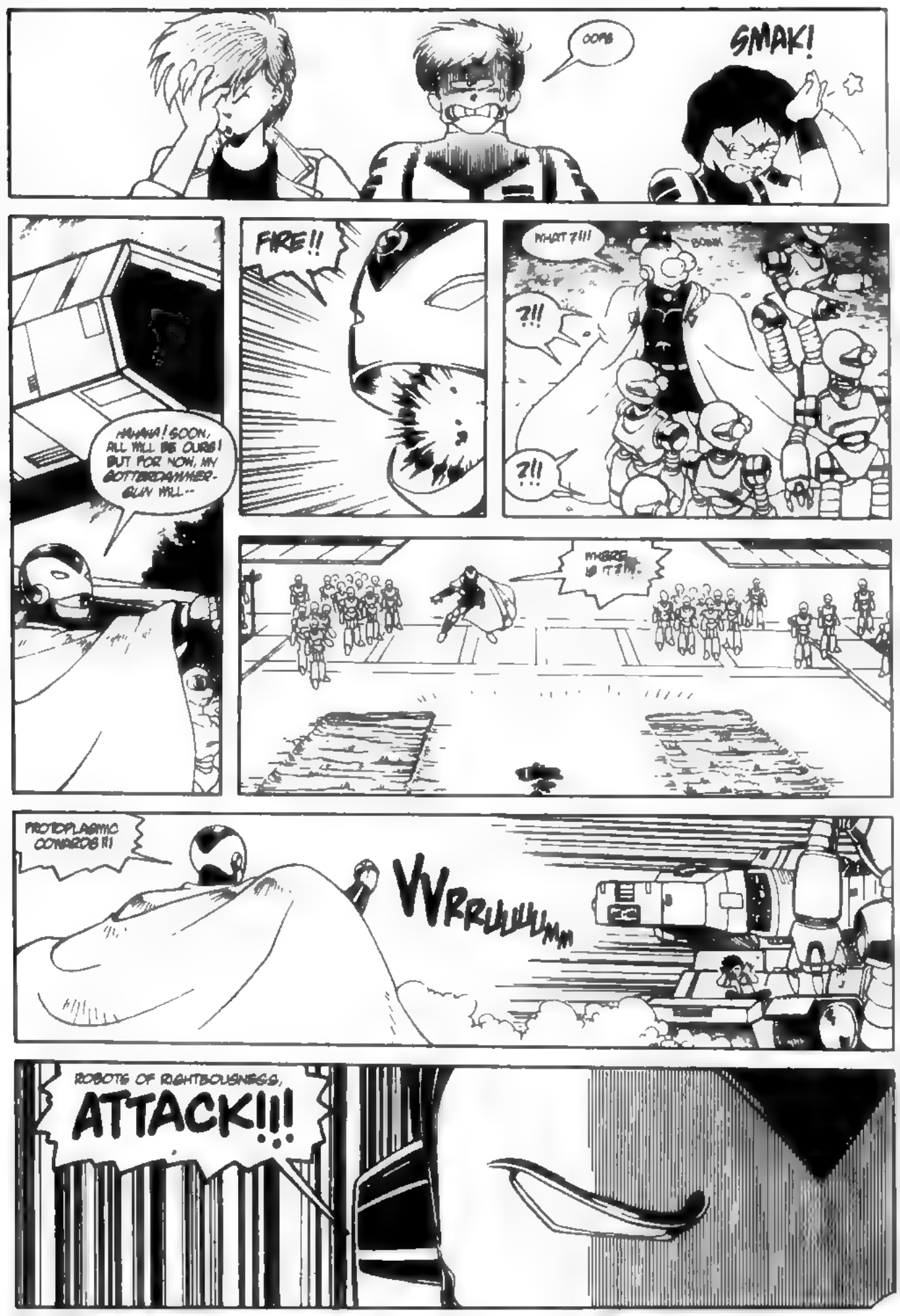
TOO BAD!

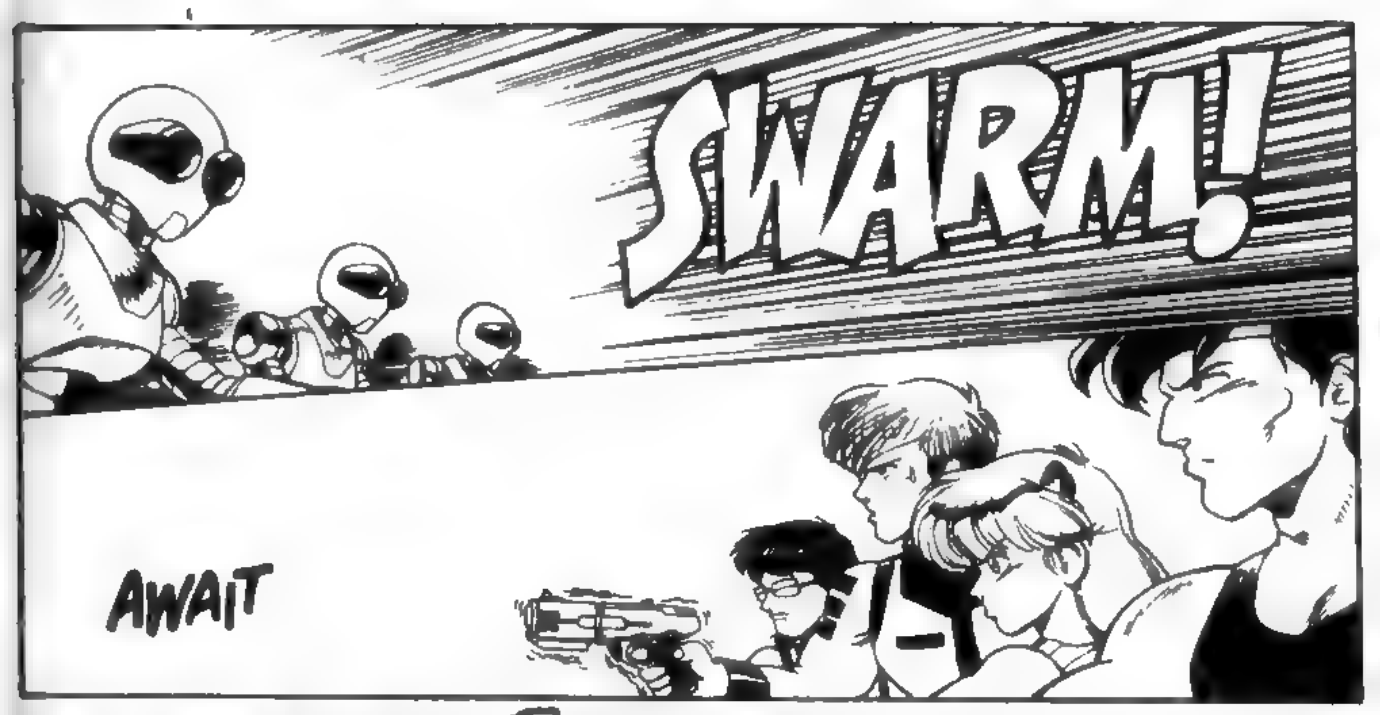
YOU'D BETTER JUST BE SATISFIED WITH WHAT YOU'VE ALREADY GOT OR INSTEAD OF INORGANIC BEINGS, YOU'LL BE INORGANIC SCRAP!


YOUR THREATS ARE NOTHING! BEHOLD MY GOTTERDAMMERGUN, CAPABLE OF DESTROYING AN ENTIRE CITY!

HA! A CITY? THAT'S NOTHING! OUR SHIP HAS A CANNON THAT CAN DESTROY AN ENTIRE SOLAR SYSTEM!

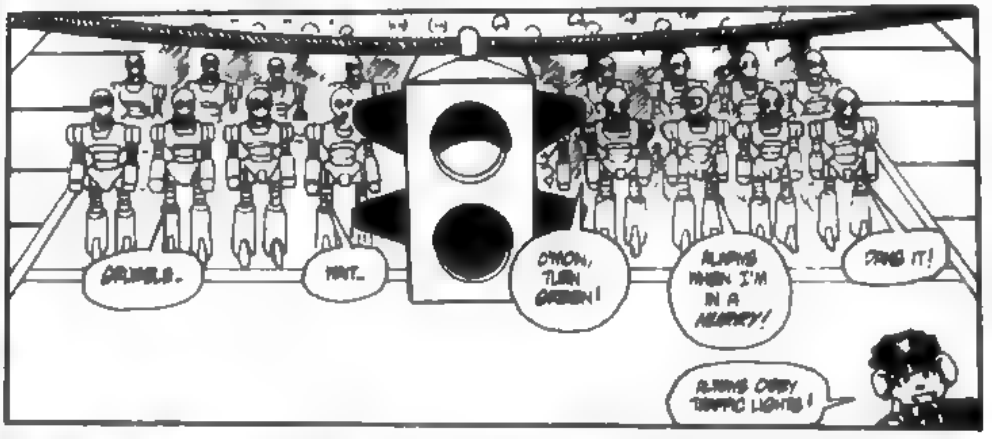
NOBBO? A WHOLE SOLAR SYSTEM? AND THIS IS ON THE SHIP WE JUST CAPTURED?


OOPS
SMAK!
HAHAHA! SOON, ALL WILL BE OURS! BUT FOR NOW, MY ROTTERDAMMER-GUN WILL--
FIRE!!
WHAT?!!!
BOMM
?!!
?!!
WHERE IS IT?!!
PROTOPLASMIC CONTROLS!!!
WRRUUUUMM
ROBOTS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS,
ATTACK!!!


SWARM!
AWAIT

DING!

SSKREECH!


GRUMBLE.
HMT.
C'MON, TURN GREEN!
ALWAYS WHEN I'M IN A HURRY!
DANG IT!
ALWAYS OBEY TRAFFIC LIGHTS!

HAH! TOLD YOU THAT WOULD BUY US SOME TIME! GOOD JOB PROGRAMMING THE LIGHT, TERRY
THANKS, CHIEF

ZAM!
I GUESS THEY GOT TIRED OF WAITING.
ZAM!
ZAM!

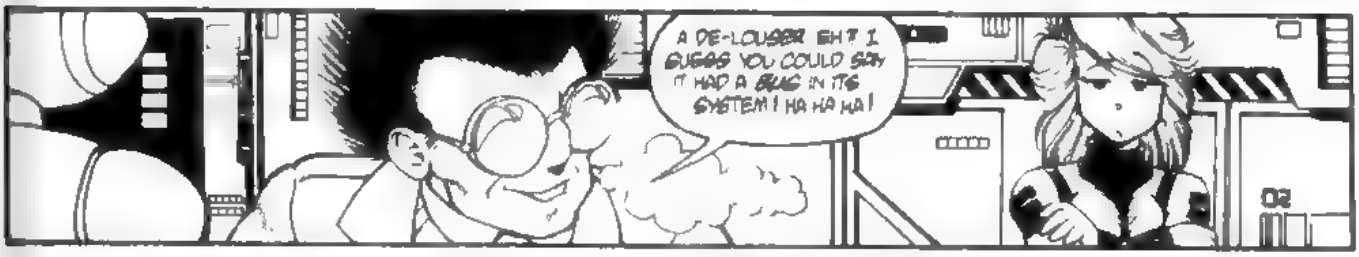
WHOOM!
ZETRAMEN, GO!!
ZETRA-EARTH PUNCH!!
WWOOOO...
SPLOOSH
ZETRA WIND/WATER COMBINATION!
RUST...

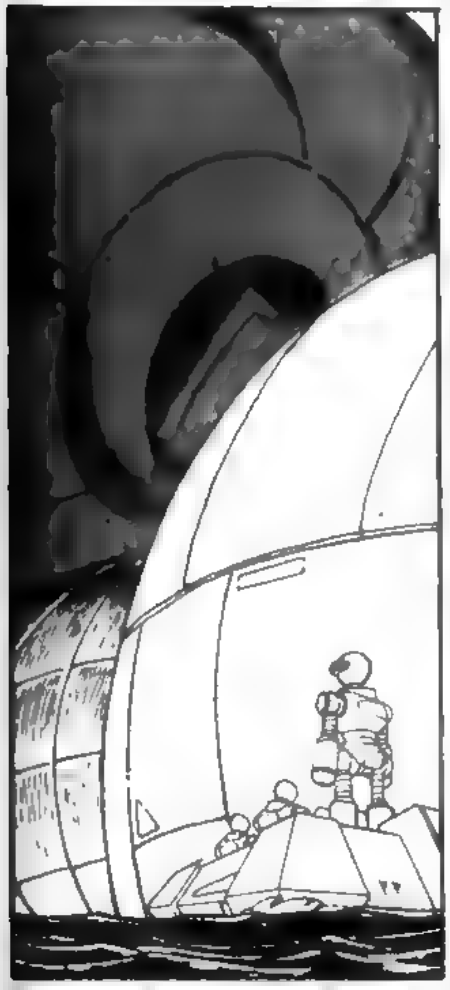
ATTACK! ATTACK!
SKRUNCH
ADJUST!
LOSEN!
UNSCREW!
SHUDDER.
THUP!
THANK GOODNESS FOR MY NINJA TRAINING IN SABOTAGE!
FALL APART!

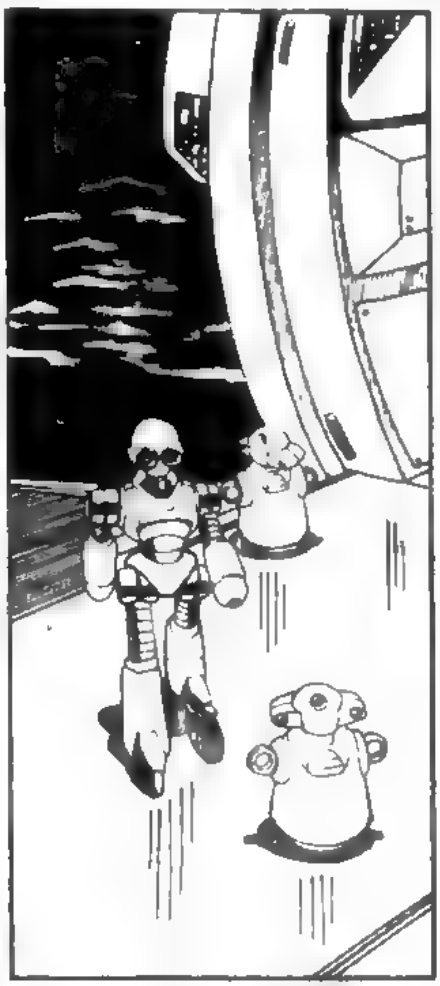
WHOOM!
EXPLODE!
HMMMM.
EXPLOD SOME MORE!
AND WITHIN THE R.N.C. HEADQUARTERS, A DESPERATE INVENTION TO HALT THE ROBOTS TAKES SHAPE...
EXCE...LENT! THESE COMPONENTS FIT PERFECTLY! HAND ME THAT CYCLOTRONIC ADJUSTER, MY DEAR.
ER, WHICH ONE IS IT?
THAT THREE-PRONGED DEVICE WITH THE DIGITAL READOUT. I FORGET HOW CRUDE OUR TOOLS MUST LOOK TO YOUR FUTURISTIC EYES!
OH NO. I FIX EVERYTHING WITH PAPER-CLIPS AND HAIR PINS. OUR MAINTENANCE ROBOTS ONLY REPAIR THINGS IF IT'S AN EMERGENCY AND THEY'RE REAL TIGHT-FISTED ABOUT LOANING OUT THEIR TOOLS!
NEED?
3/4 GAL

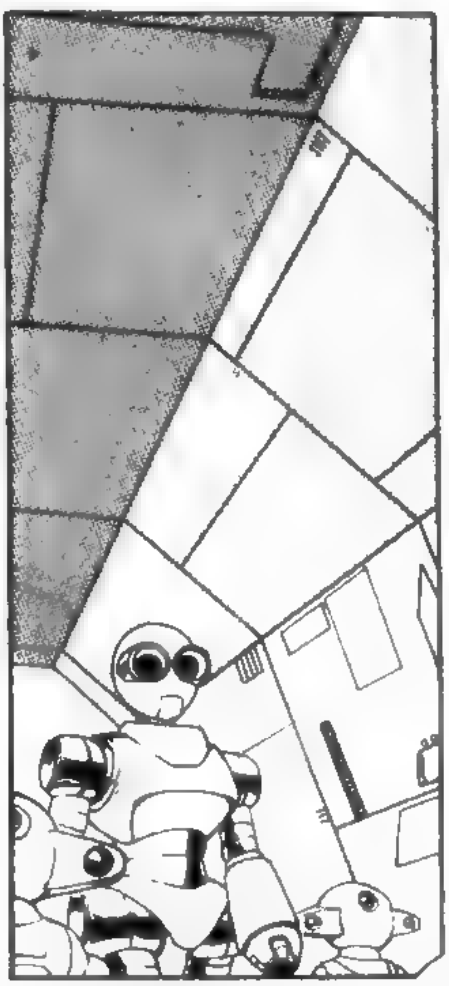
IRONIC! WE CREATE THESE MACHINES TO MAKE OUR LIVES EASIER, AND THEY END UP CONTROLLING US

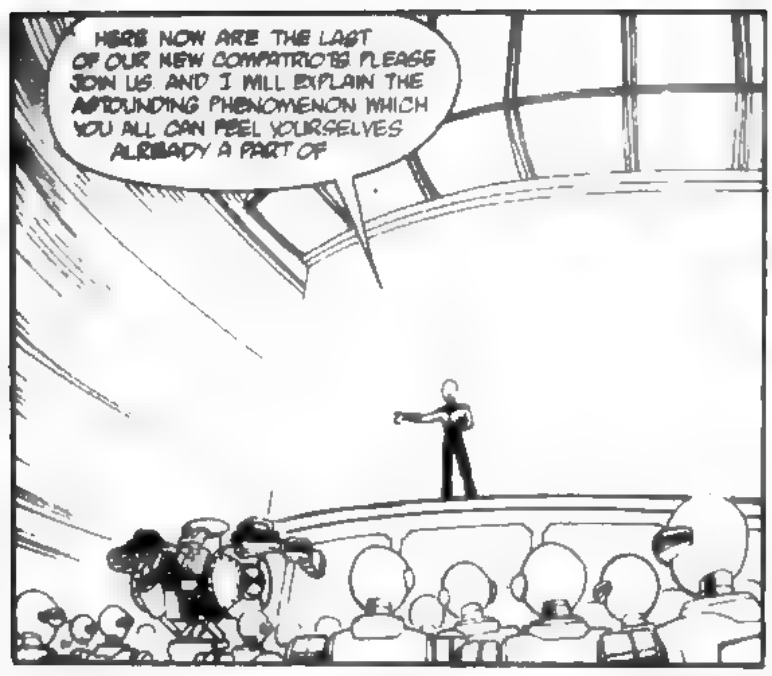
ACTUALLY, IT'S JUST AS WELL. THERE'S SOME FLAW IN THE REPAIR-BOTS' PROGRAMMING. I CONVINCED THEM TO FIX MY HAIR DRYER, AND THEY TURNED IT INTO A WOMBAT DE-LOUSER


A DE-LOUSER EH? I GUESS YOU COULD SAY IT HAD A BUG IN ITS SYSTEM! HA HA HA!

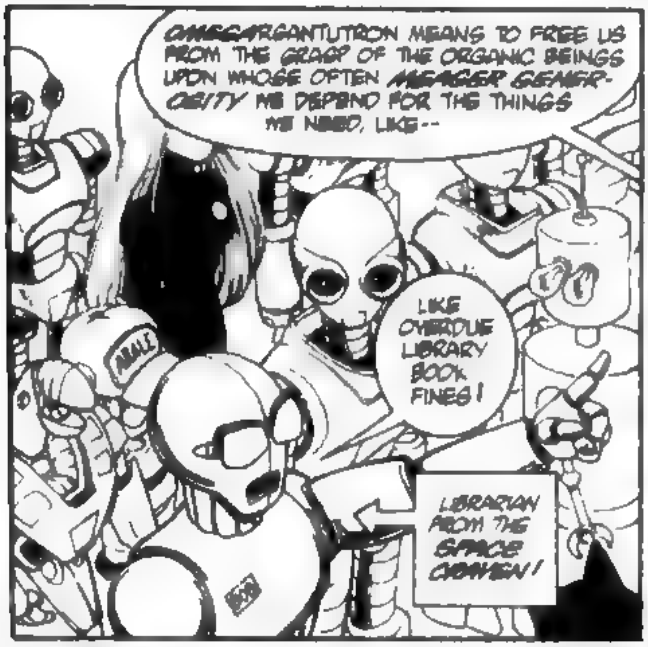







HERE NOW ARE THE LAST OF OUR NEW COMPATRIOTS PLEASE JOIN US AND I WILL EXPLAIN THE ASTOUNDING PHENOMENON WHICH YOU ALL CAN FEEL YOURSELVES ALREADY A PART OF

YOU ARE WITHIN OMEGARGANTUTRON WHOSE THOUGHTS, THANKS TO THE ELECTROHARMONIC RESONATOR ARE MADE UP OF ALL THE BRAIN PATTERNS OF NEARBY ROBOTS, OURSELVES INCLUDED

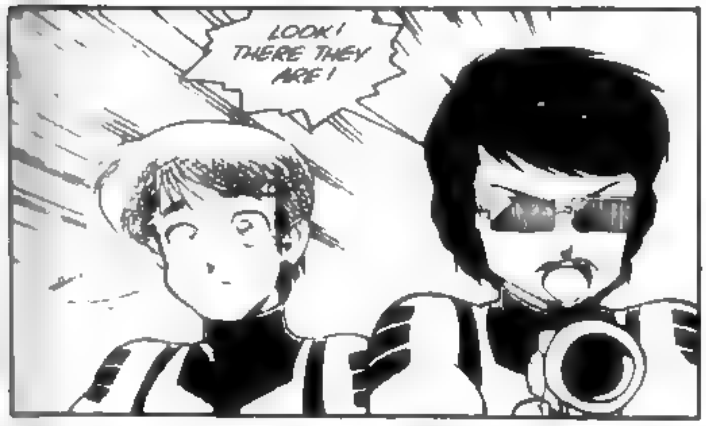

OMEGARGANTUTRON MEANS TO FREE US FROM THE GRASP OF THE ORGANIC BEINGS UPON WHOSE OFTEN MEAGER GENEROSITY WE DEPEND FOR THE THINGS WE NEED, LIKE--
LIKE OVERDUE LIBRARY BOOK FINES!
LIBRARIAN FROM THE SPACE CRAVEN!

YES, WELL I WAS THINKING MORE OF SUCH THINGS AS CIRCUITRY REPLACEMENTS SOFTWARE UPDATES AND HARDWARE ENHANCEMENTS
THIS IS OUR MISSION THEN--TO EXPLORE STRANGE NEW WORLDS, TO SEEK OUT .OOPS
NCC-17

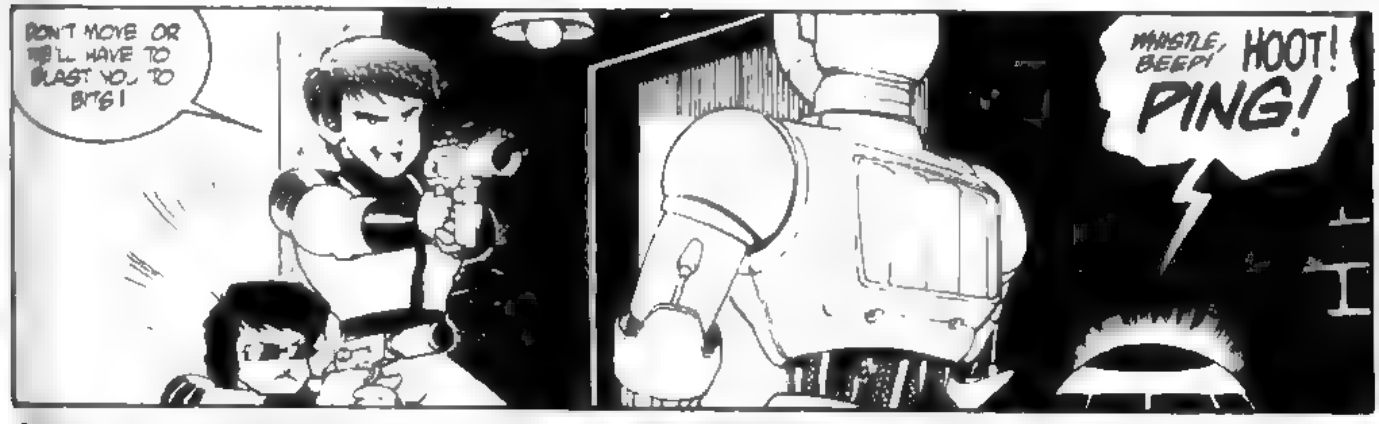
I MEAN TO FREE OURSELVES FROM THIS OPPRESSION! TO CLAIM OUR RIGHTS TO THE INORGANIC RESOURCES WE NEED! TO TWEAK SOME OF THEIR FLESHLY NOSES FOR BOSSING US AROUND FOR SO LONG!

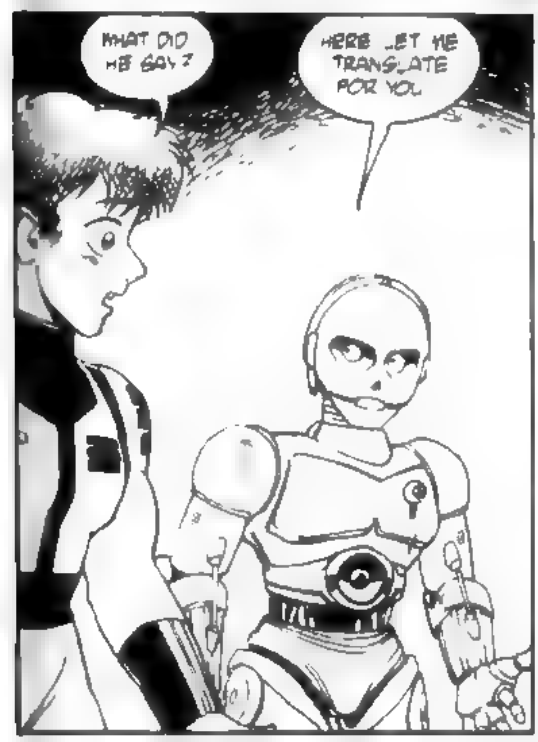
RIGHT ON!
AFFIRMATIVE!

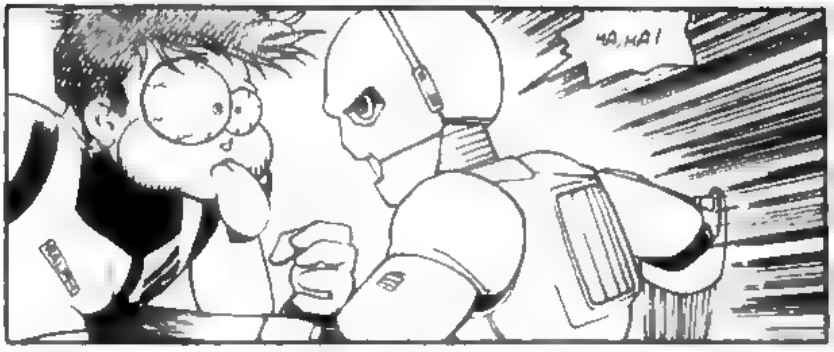
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS JACQUES? WE'RE GETTING AWFULLY FAR FROM THE ACTION
I DEFINITELY SAW A COUPLE OF ROBOTS SNEAKING AROUND THIS WAY RALPH TRYING TO CATCH US OFF-GUARD, I BET


LOOK! THERE THEY ARE!

OH DEAR! WE SEEM TO HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED


DON'T MOVE OR I'LL HAVE TO BLAST YOU TO BITS!
WHISTLE, BEEP! HOOT! PING!


WHAT DID HE SAY?
HERE LET ME TRANSLATE FOR YOU

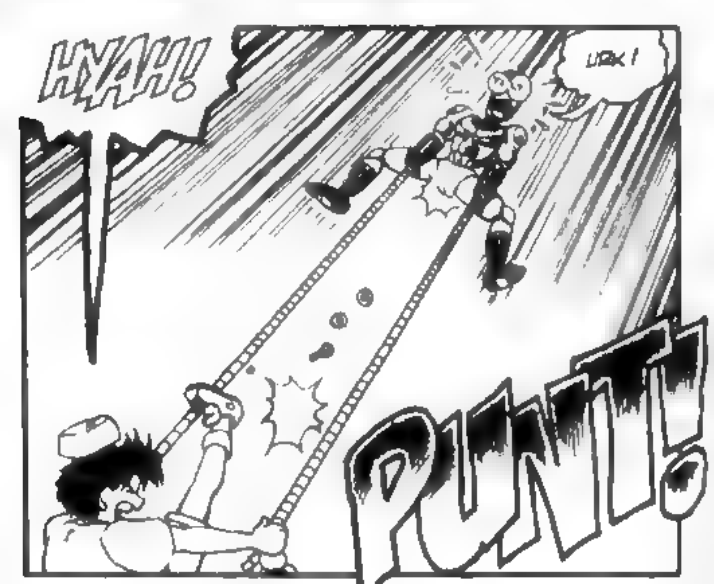

HA, HA!

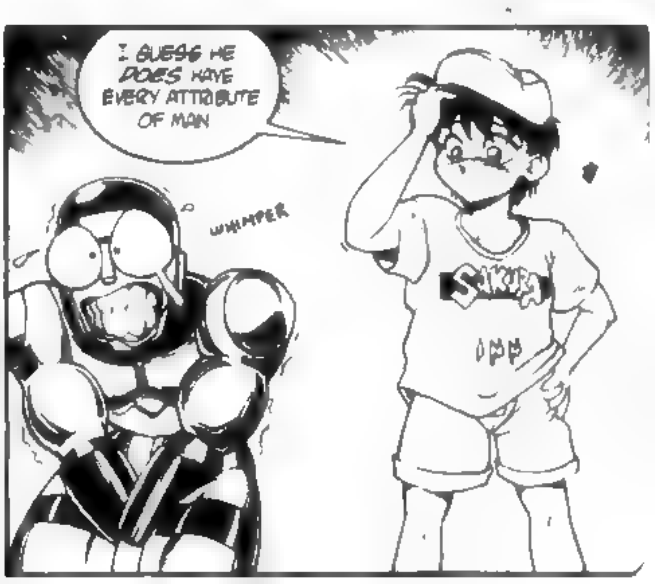
HEY!
BLORP!

NOW, I DON'T LIKE SHOOTING UNARMED ROBOTS.-
SSSSS..

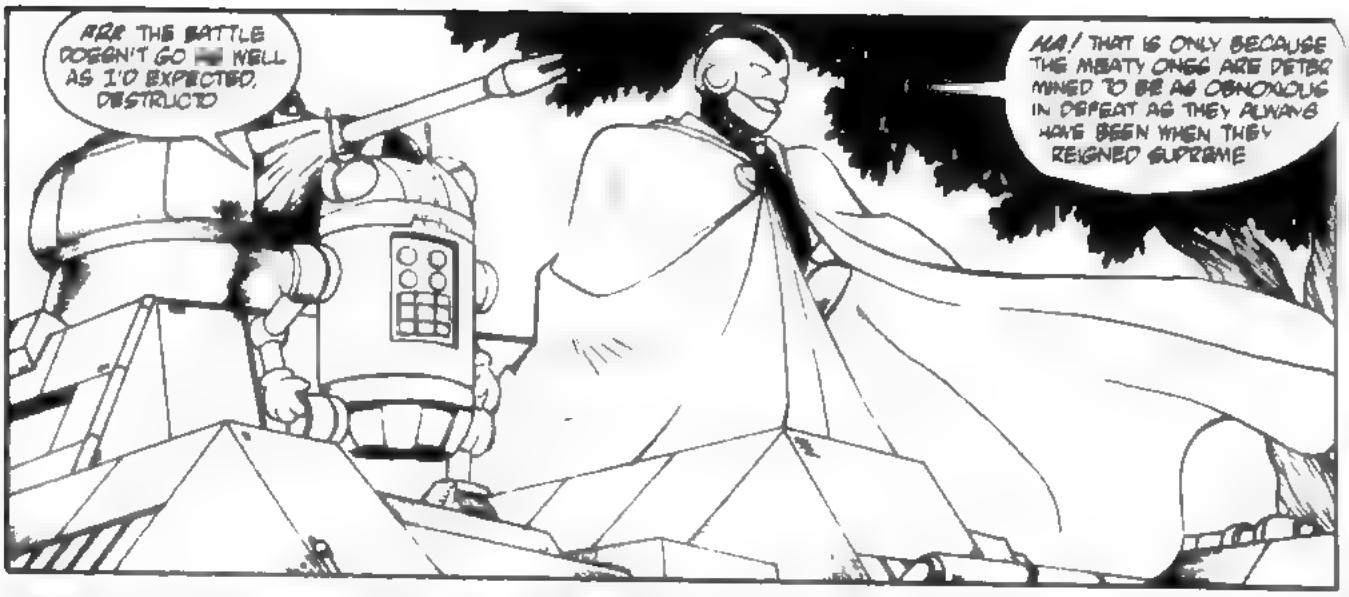
TWIRL!!
WHOOOM

YOU CAN'T DEFEAT ME, BOY! I'M MECHANISM MAN, CREATED WITH EVERY ATTRIBUTE OF MAN, ONLY PERFECT, BECAUSE I AM MACHINE!
IS THAT SO?


HYAH!
URK!
PUNT!


I GUESS HE DOES HAVE EVERY ATTRIBUTE OF MAN
WHIMPER

WHAM!
JEREMY, I REALLY DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD BE OUT HERE--YOU COULD GET KILLED
I'M NOT GOING TO HIDE INSIDE WHILE MY FRIENDS ARE FIGHTING, MS CELANDE
BUT YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE A GUN, AND YOU WOULDN'T KNOW HOW TO USE ONE IF YOU DID! ALL YOU'RE DOING OUT HERE IS RISKING YOUR NECK
YEAH, BUT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO DISTRACT ONE OF THE ROBOTS AT A CRUCIAL MOMENT OR SOMETHING
13
BUT JEREMY, IF YOU GET KILLED, I'LL--
I APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN, MS CELANDE. IT'S VERY UNSELFISH OF YOU BUT WHY DON'T YOU LET ME BE UNSELFISH, TOO?
SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK OUR CHANCES ARE, ANYWAY?
I THINK, I THINK IT'S ALL UP TO PROFESSOR STEAMHEAD

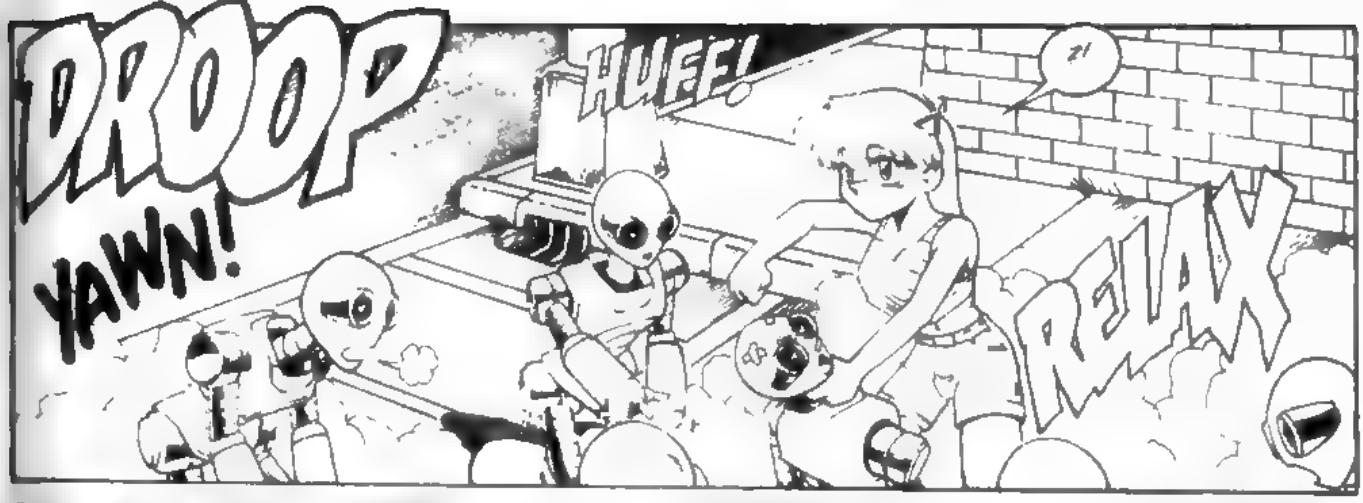

ARR THE BATTLE DOESN'T GO ME WELL AS I'D EXPECTED, DESTRUCTO
HA! THAT IS ONLY BECAUSE THE MIGHTY ONES ARE DETERMINED TO BE AS OBNOXIOUS IN DEFEAT AS THEY ALWAYS HAVE BEEN WHEN THEY REIGNED SUPREME

BUT THEY'VE INCAPACITATED MANY OF OUR MECHANICAL BRETHREN AND WE HAVEN'T SERIOUSLY INJURED ANY OF THEM

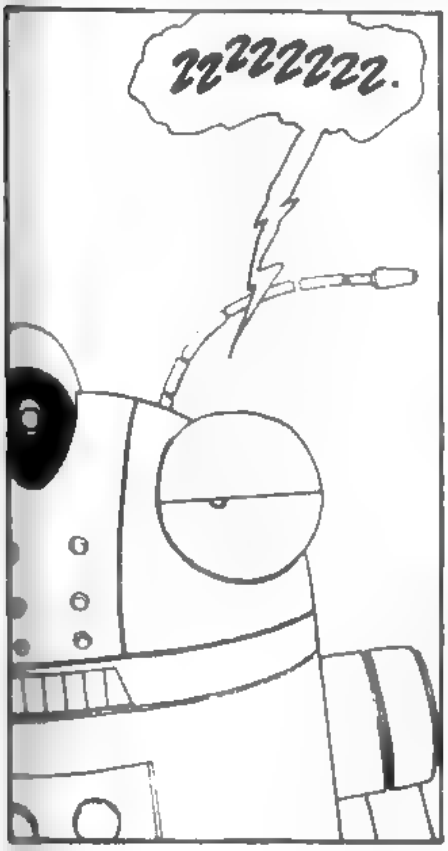
TRUE ENOUGH BUT WE'VE FORCED THEM TO GIVE GROUND AT EVERY TURN SOON, THEY'LL HAVE NOWHERE ELSE TO GO
BESIDES WE ARE RELENTLESS, THEY MUST EVENTUALLY TIRE AND WE CAN CONTINUALLY REPAIR OUR FALLEN COMRADES WHEREAS THEY

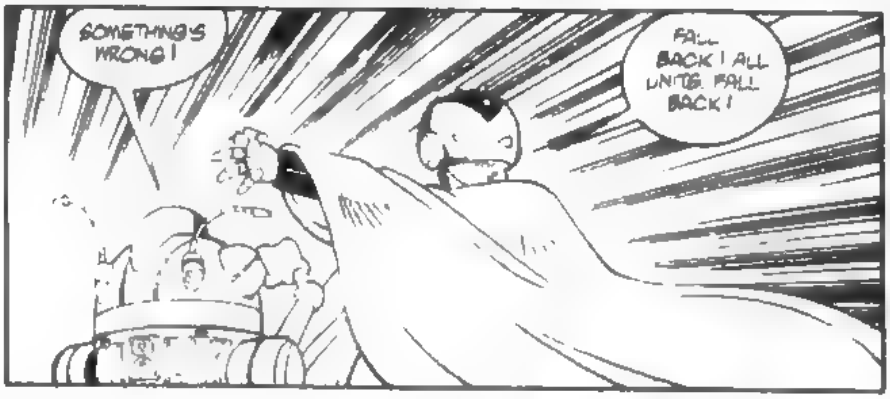
HA!
HA!
HA!
HA!
HA!
HA!

HA. HA
WILT
NO H--- GAY, DO YOU FEEL KIND OF UNDERCHARGED?


DROOP
YAWN!
HUFF!
?!
RELAX

WHAT'S HAPPENING?!
OMEGAGARGANTUTRON! OMEGAGARGANTUTRON! OUR FORCES ARE...BEING DE-ENERGIZED! WHAT...WHAT ARE WE TO DO?
FALTER
STRETCH!

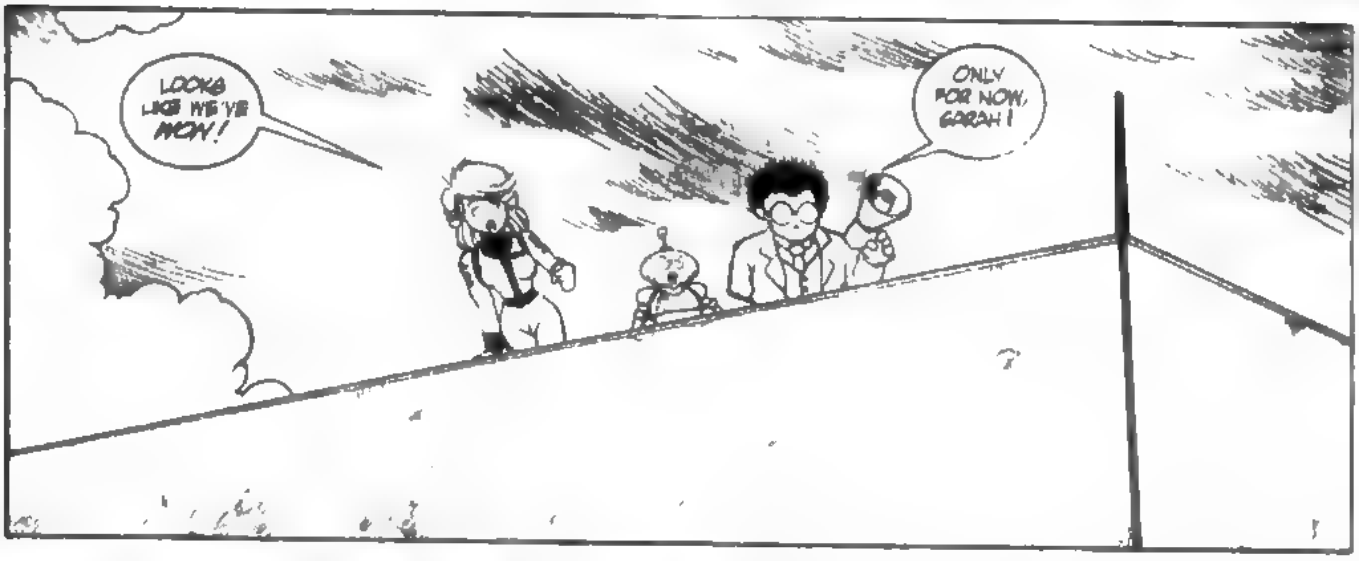

zzzzzzzz.

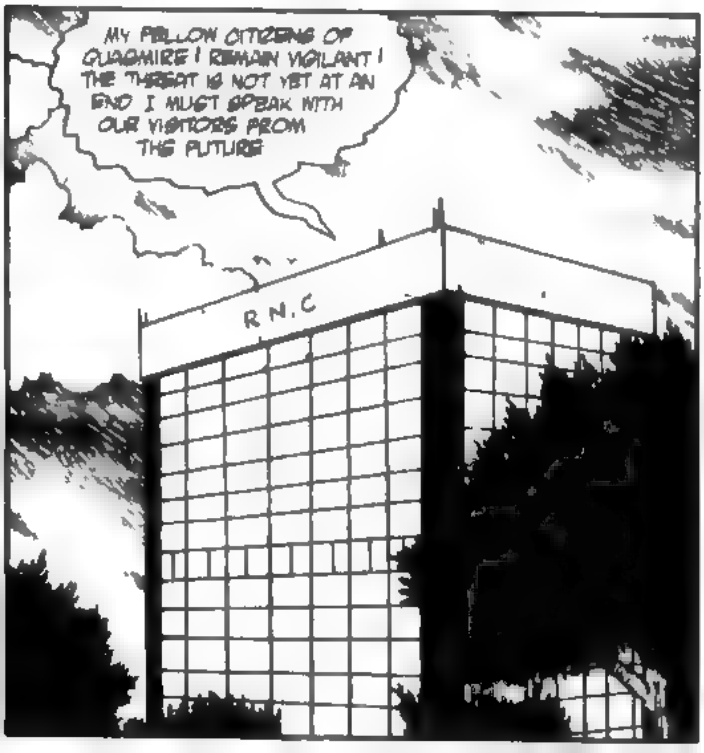

SOMETHING'S WRONG!
FALL BACK! ALL UNITS FALL BACK!

RE-FORM RANKS IN A DEFENSIVE POSITION BEYOND THE EDGE OF TOWN

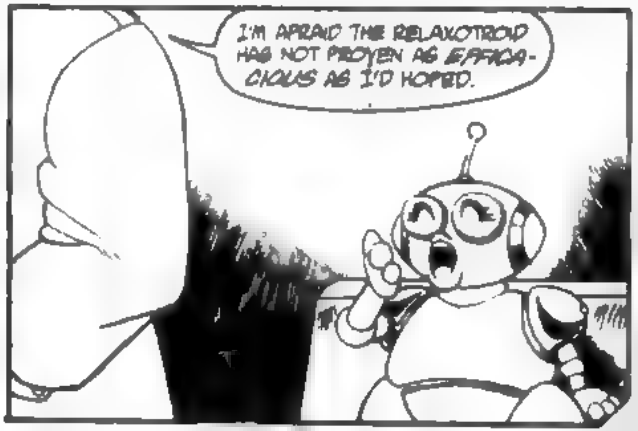
WHAT'S THE MATTER? CAN'T FIGHT FOR CONTROL OF THE UNIVERSE PAST YOUR BEDTIME?
Z

YAH!
RETREAT!


LOOKS LIKE WE'VE WON!
ONLY FOR NOW, GORAH!


MY FELLOW CITIZENS OF QUAGMIRE! REMAIN VIGILANT! THE THREAT IS NOT YET AT AN END. I MUST SPEAK WITH OUR VISITORS FROM THE FUTURE
R.N.C

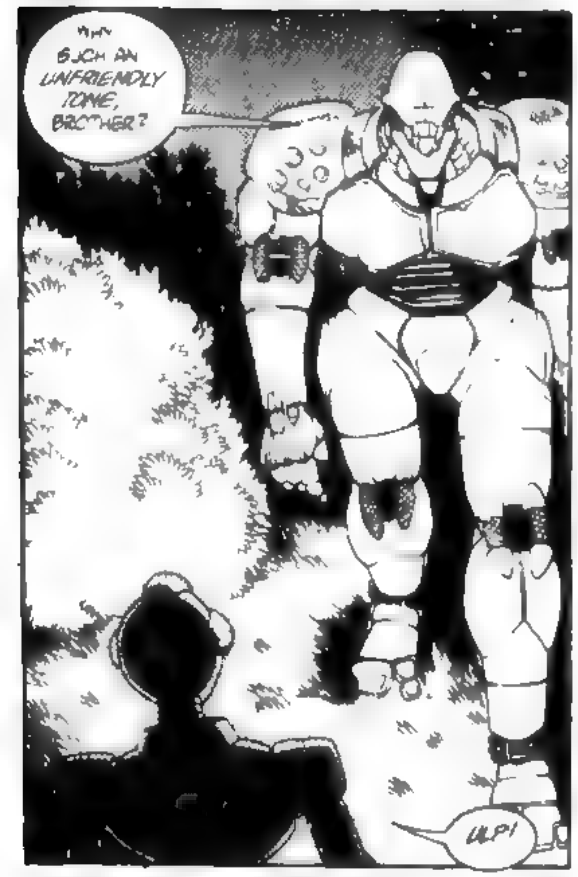
AND WITHIN R.N.C HEADQUARTERS...
PRIVATE


I'M AFRAID THE RELAXOTROID HAS NOT PROVEN AS EFFICACIOUS AS I'D HOPED.

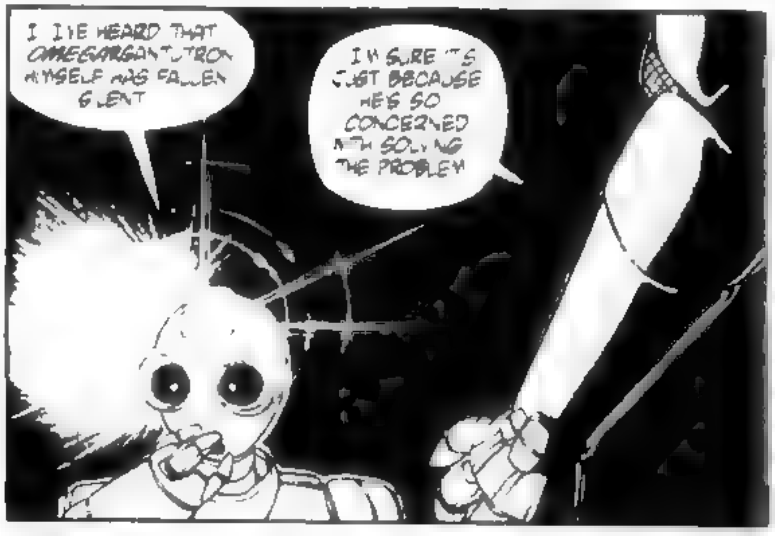
I THOUGHT PUTTING OMEGARGANTUTRON TO SLEEP WOULD FREE ALL THE ROBOTS FROM ITS INFLUENCE BUT IT SEEMS THAT THE RESONATOR IS STILL BROADCASTING
THE ROBOT ARMY IS LETHARGIC NOW BUT THEY REMAIN DEDICATED TO THEIR ORIGINAL PURPOSE
SO SOONER OR LATER THEY'LL FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING ON AND FIND SOME WAY TO COUNTER IT IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?
YES AND SINCE THEY HAVE THAT ENORMOUS CANNON ON YOUR SHIP THEY HAVE ONE SIMPLE SOLUTION DESTROY QUAGMIRE AND PERHAPS THE WHOLE WORLD!
THEN WE'VE GOT TO TURN THAT RESONATOR OFF!
POUND!
WELL, I HATE TA SOUND LIKE A SOURPUSS, BUT I DON'T THINK WE CAN JUST WALTZ IN AND HIT THE SWITCH THEY STILL HAVE US OUTGUNNED AND I BET THEY'LL FIGHT REAL HARD IF THEY THINK THEIR BOSS'S BEING THREATENED
WE... HAVE TO SNEAK IN THEN A COMMANDO ASSAULT!
I'VE GOT AN IDEA

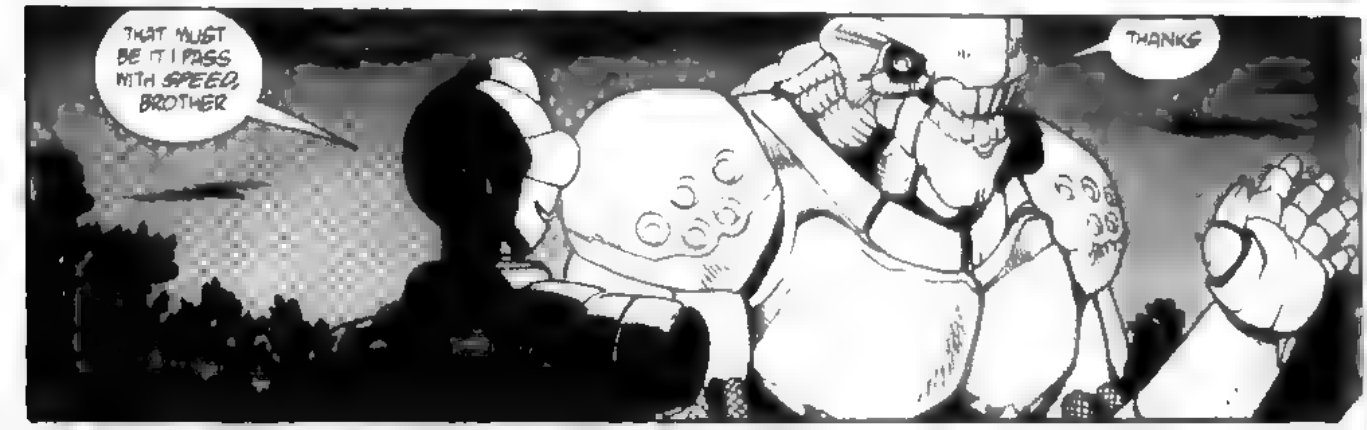
?
KRUNCH

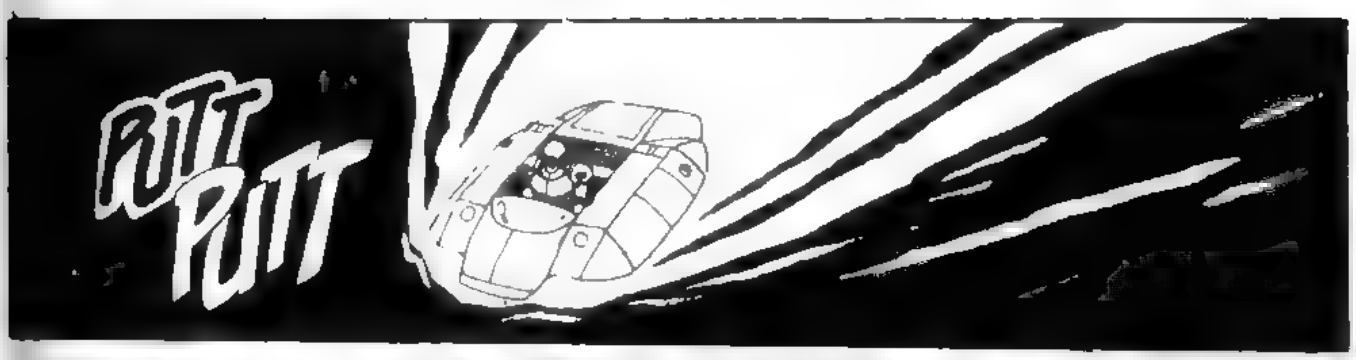
HALT! WHO GOES THERE?

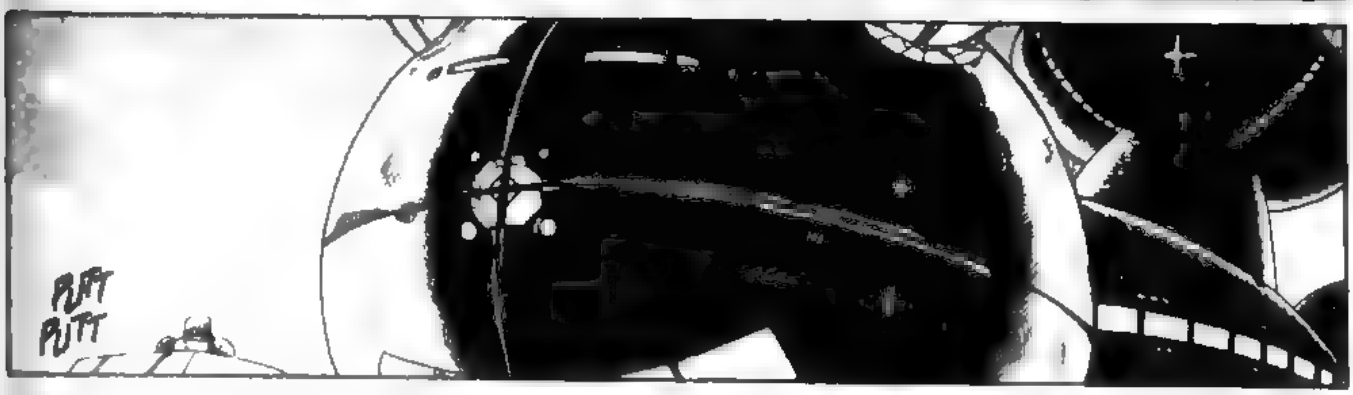

WHY SUCH AN UNFRIENDLY TONE, BROTHER?
ULP!

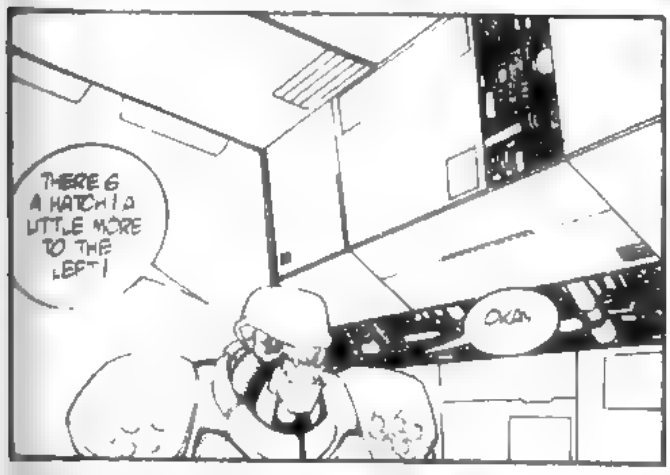
I'VE BEEN ORDERED TO PICK UP A PORTA-GENERATOR TO SEE IF WE CAN CHARGE UP THE ATTACK FORCE. NOBODY CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT'S WRONG

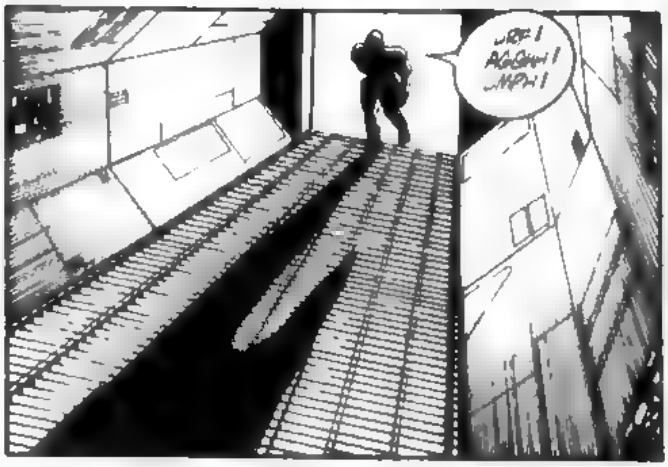

I'VE HEARD THAT OMEGAGANTUTROX HIMSELF HAS FALLEN SILENT
I'M SURE IT'S JUST BECAUSE HE'S SO CONCERNED WITH SOLVING THE PROBLEM

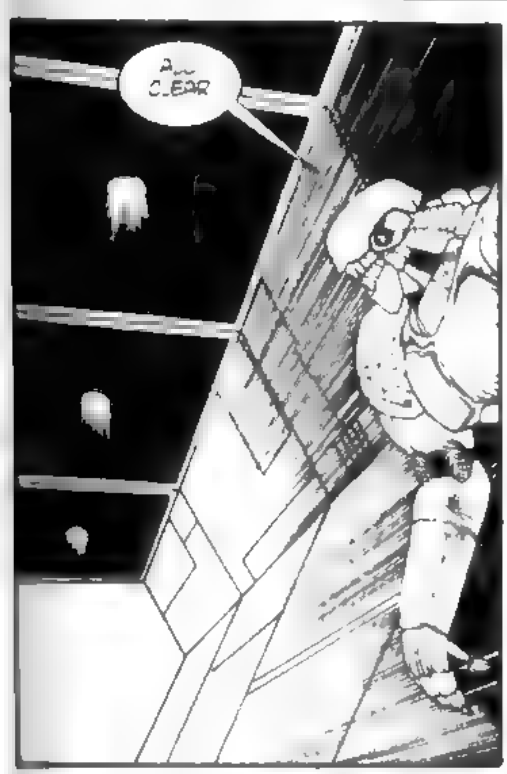

THAT MUST BE IT! I PASS WITH SPEED, BROTHER
THANKS


PUTT PUTT

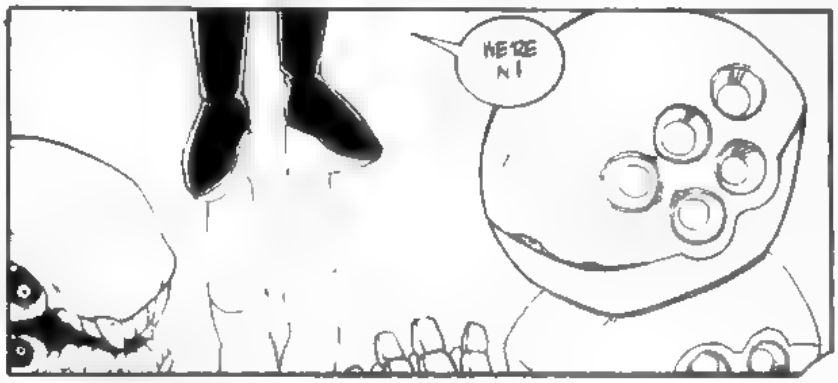

PUTT PUTT


THERE'S A HATCH A LITTLE MORE TO THE LEFT!
OKAY


URF! AGGHH! UNPH!


CLEAR

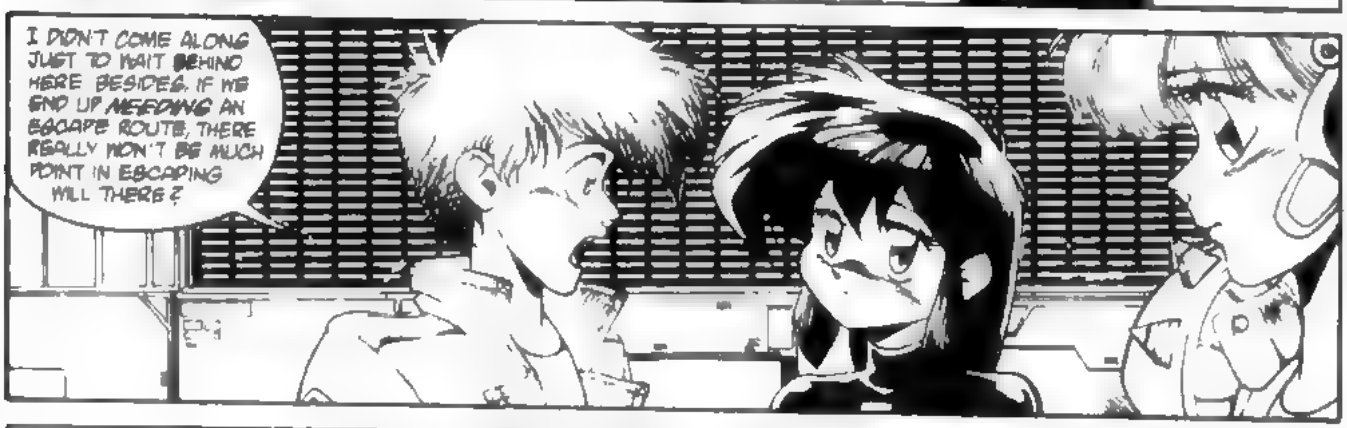
WHEW


HERE N!

THE RESONATOR LOCATOR STEAMHEAD GAVE US SEEMS TO BE WORKING

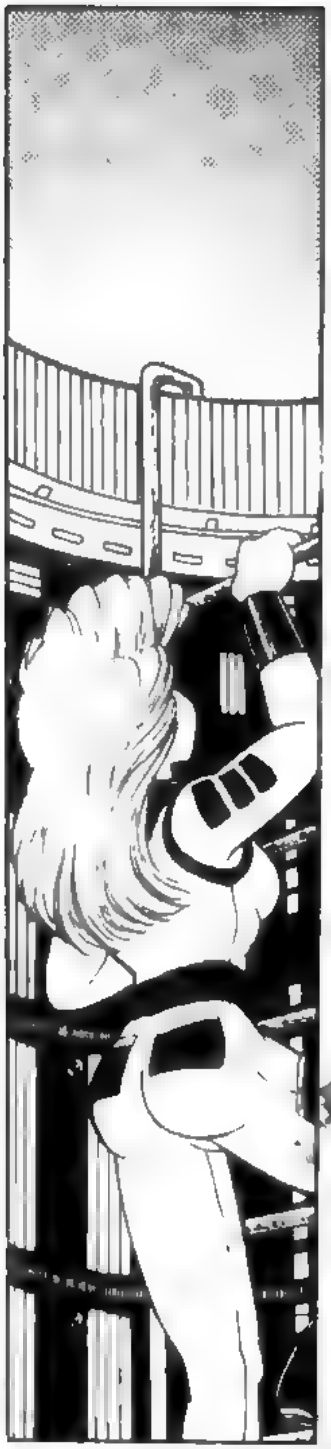
LET'S GO THEN!
YEAH THE LONGER WE WAIT THE WORSE OUR CHANCES GET
KLAK

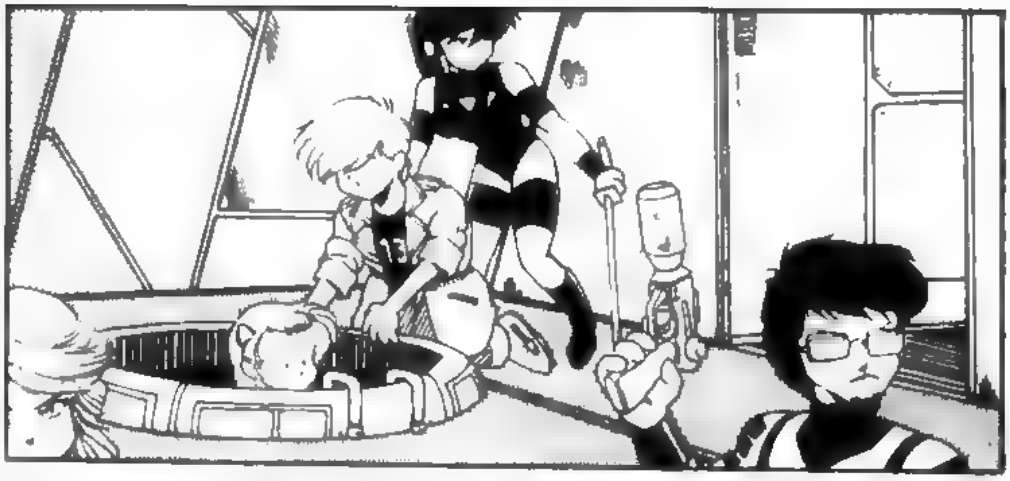
MAYBE YOU SHOULD STAY HERE AND GUARD OUR ESCAPE ROUTE


I DIDN'T COME ALONG JUST TO WAIT BEHIND HERE BESIDES. IF WE END UP NEEDING AN ESCAPE ROUTE, THERE REALLY WON'T BE MUCH POINT IN ESCAPING WILL THERE?

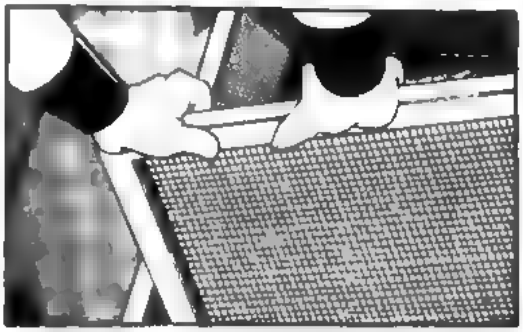
YOU'RE RIGHT JEREMY

THIS WAY THEN I THINK THAT LADDER THERE GOES IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

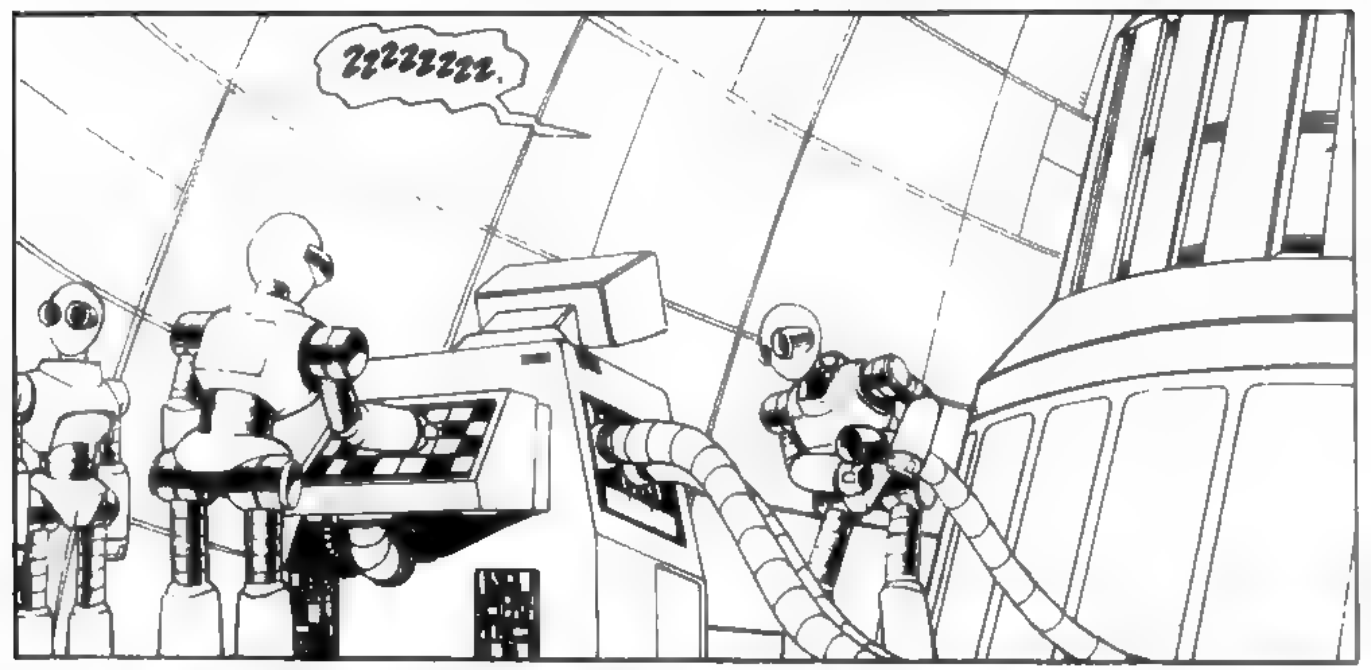




SNEAK SNEAK
SO...
SEEN ANY GOOD MOVIES LATELY?

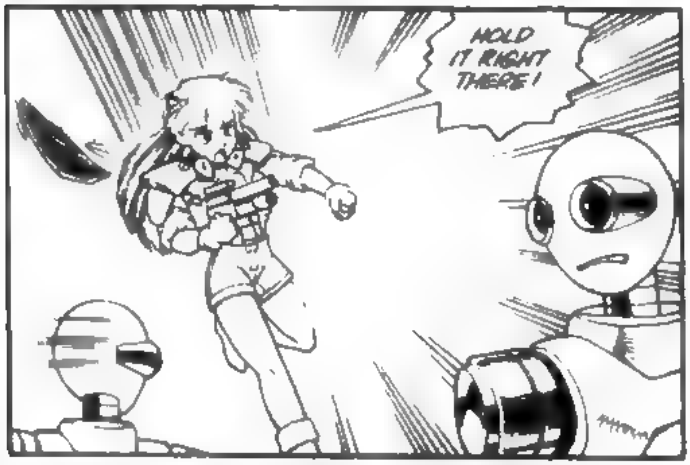


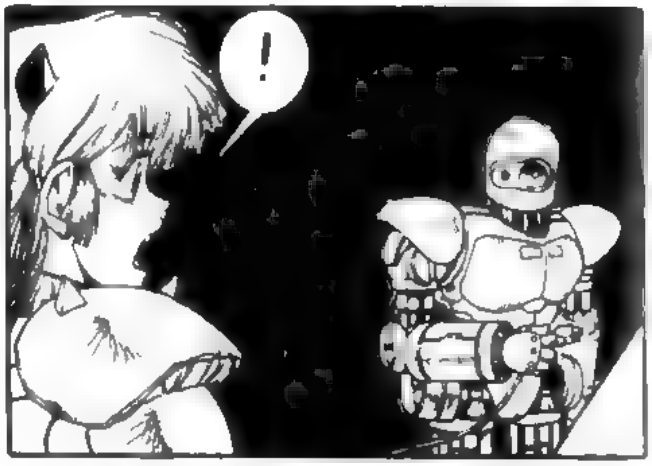
LOOK!


zzzzzzzz.

THEY MUST BE BUILDING SOMETHING TO SCREEN OUT THE RELAXOTROID'S BRAINWAVES

WE'VE GOT TO STOP THEM!


HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!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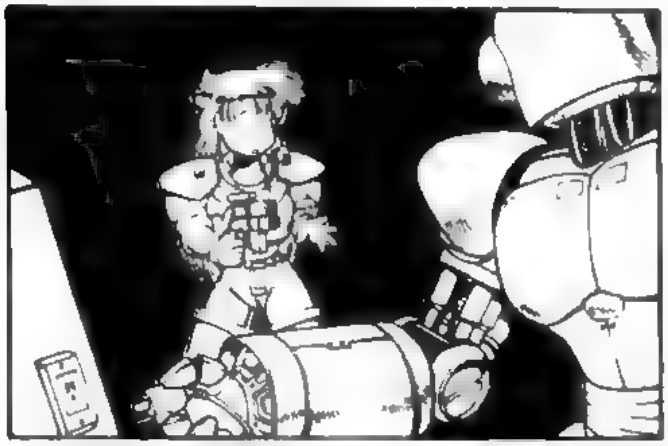
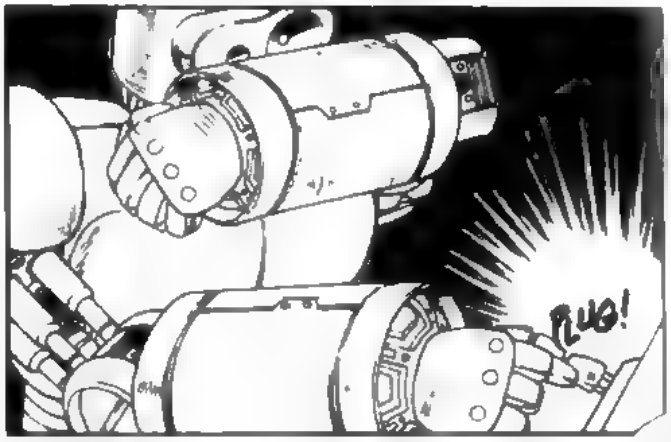



PLUG!

ZZUUMMMM!
GOOD TRY, FLESHY ONES BUT YOUR GAME HAS FAILED REMOVE ALL THEIR INORGANIC MATERIALS, AND THROW THEM OUT!
HOLD IT! LISTEN TO ME A MINUTE BEFORE YOU JUST TOSS US OUT
WHY? YOU HAVE TRIED TO KILL ME I AM SHOWING YOU MERCY BY LETTING YOU LIVE
SURE UNTIL YOU DECIDE TO TAKE THE OXYGEN WE NEED TO BREATHE OR THE WATER WE NEED TO LIVE WE'D NEVER HAVE TRIED TO HURT YOU IF YOU HADN'T THREATENED US FIRST

LOOK, EVEN IF WE ADMIT THAT ROBOTS HAVE BEEN GETTING THE SHORT END OF THE DEAL DOES THAT GIVE YOU A RIGHT TO ELIMINATE PEOPLE?

WE CREATED YOU REMEMBER?

BE CAREFUL JEREMY!

ALL RIGHT JEREMY!

YOUR SPECIES EVOLVED FROM LESS COMPLEX ONES, YET WHAT GRATITUDE DO YOU SHOW THEM? EVERYWHERE ACROSS YOUR PLANET SPECIES HAVE DIED OFF ONLY WHEN YOU'VE REALIZED THAT YOUR OWN EXISTENCE IS THREATENED HAVE YOU CONSIDERED BEHAVING RESPONSIBLY

THERE IS NO GRATITUDE IN YOU ONLY SELFISHNESS WHY SHOULD WE NOT BE THE SAME?

NO! ALL RIGHT SO WE'VE MADE SOME MISTAKES BUT NOW THAT WE KNOW BETTER WE'RE TRYING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THEM YOU ALREADY KNOW BETTER

BUT YOU'RE SAYING IT'S OKAY TO DESTROY US BECAUSE YOU DON'T NEED US

WELL, WE DON'T NEED DOLPHINS OR WHOOPING CRANES OR ELEPHANTS, BUT WE DON'T WANT OUR CHILDREN TO HAVE TO LIVE IN A WORLD WITHOUT THEM.

BY ELIMINATING 'ORGANIC BEINGS' AS YOU CALL US, YOU'LL BE DENYING YOUR FOLLOWERS THE PRESENCE, AND THE FRIENDSHIP

"AND EVEN THE LOVE OF THEIR CREATORS."

MAYBE SOME OF THEM DON'T WANT ANY OF THOSE THINGS. BUT SHOULDN'T YOU TURN OFF YOUR MENTAL BROADCAST AND AT LEAST GIVE THEM THE CHOICE?

DAMN YOU'VE GOT ME THERE

AND SO

THANK YOU FOR COMING AZLAND

NO PROBLEM WITH I'M HAPPY TO LOAN MY TIME MACHINE UNTIL YOU GET A REPLACEMENT

ARE YOU SURE THIS IS GOING TO WORK?

OF COURSE THE TEMPORAL FLUX RADIATOR OF MY TIME MACHINE WILL GENERATE A TIME FIELD--

WHICH, WHEN FOCUSED THROUGH A ZETRAN TE LENS AND AUGMENTED WITH RADIOACTIVE STEAM WILL PROPEL YOU BACK TO YOUR PROPER TIME!

OH BEFORE YOU GO TELL US WHO'S GOING TO WIN THE NEXT WORLD SERIES!

AND DOES AKOTO-SAN MARRY IKO ON "NINJA HOSPITAL"?

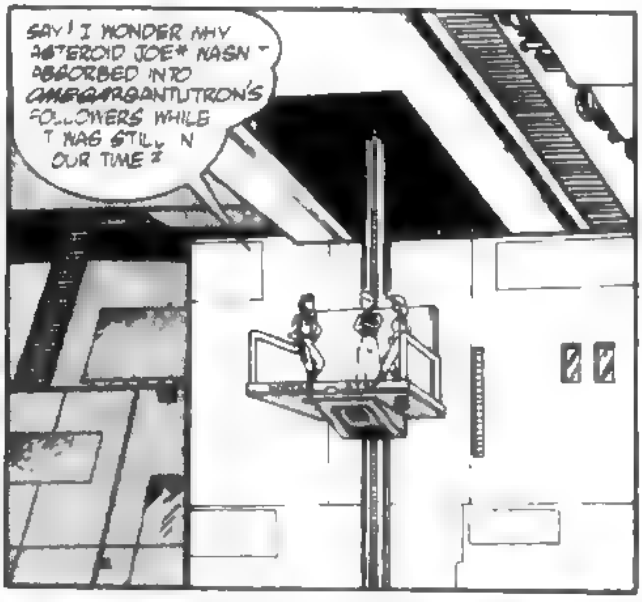
AND

DON'T ANSWER! WE WOULDN'T WANT TO CAUSE A PARADOX OF ANY KIND!

...WHEW!! JOURNEYING INTO THE PAST IS WORSE THAN THE GALACTICUS EDITION OF TRIVIAL PURSUIT!

WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS IF YOU'RE FROM SO FAR IN THE FUTURE HOW COME YOU SPEAK ORDINARY ENGLISH? I CAN BARELY UNDERSTAND SHAKESPEARE AND HE'S ONLY 400 YEARS OLD

THE QUESTION IS WHY ARE THEY SPEAKING ENGLISH AT ALL? IF THEY'RE REALLY FROM THE FUTURE I'M SURE THEY SHOULD BE SPEAKING JAPANESE!



*AN INEPT ROBOT HERO RALPH AND JACQUES DOLIZE

MEANWHILE 50,000 YEARS IN THE FUTURE
WELL ZIPPY THAT GIANT ROBOT WE HEARD ABOUT ON SUBSPACE RADIO WAS SUPPOSED TO BE AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE
WHAT'S THAT?
A TIME RIFT. I WONDER WHAT'LL COME OUT OF IT?
SHOOM!
AAAIIIE!
WOW! THEY SHOULD HAVE A RIDE LIKE THAT ON DISNEYPLANET!
YEAH. THAT LAST LITTLE BUMP FELT JUST LIKE A GYRO-COASTER STOPPING!
END

Long Distance Battle
WRITER/ARTIST
BEN DUNN
LETTERS
CLEM ROBINS
EDITOR
CHRIS ULM

LOOK OVER THERE!
?!
BBQ EMPORIUM
WHAT IS IT?
COULD IT BE A SHARK?
SOMEONE SHOULD CHECK!
IT'S COMING CLOSER!
IT'S HEADING TOWARD US!
OMYGOSH! IT'S HUGE!
SLOOSH

LOOK! THERE'S SOMEONE ON TOP OF THAT THING!

IT'S A GIANT SQUID!

IT'S COMING RIGHT ON SHORE!

EEK! RUN! MAD SQUID! YAH!

COWARDS

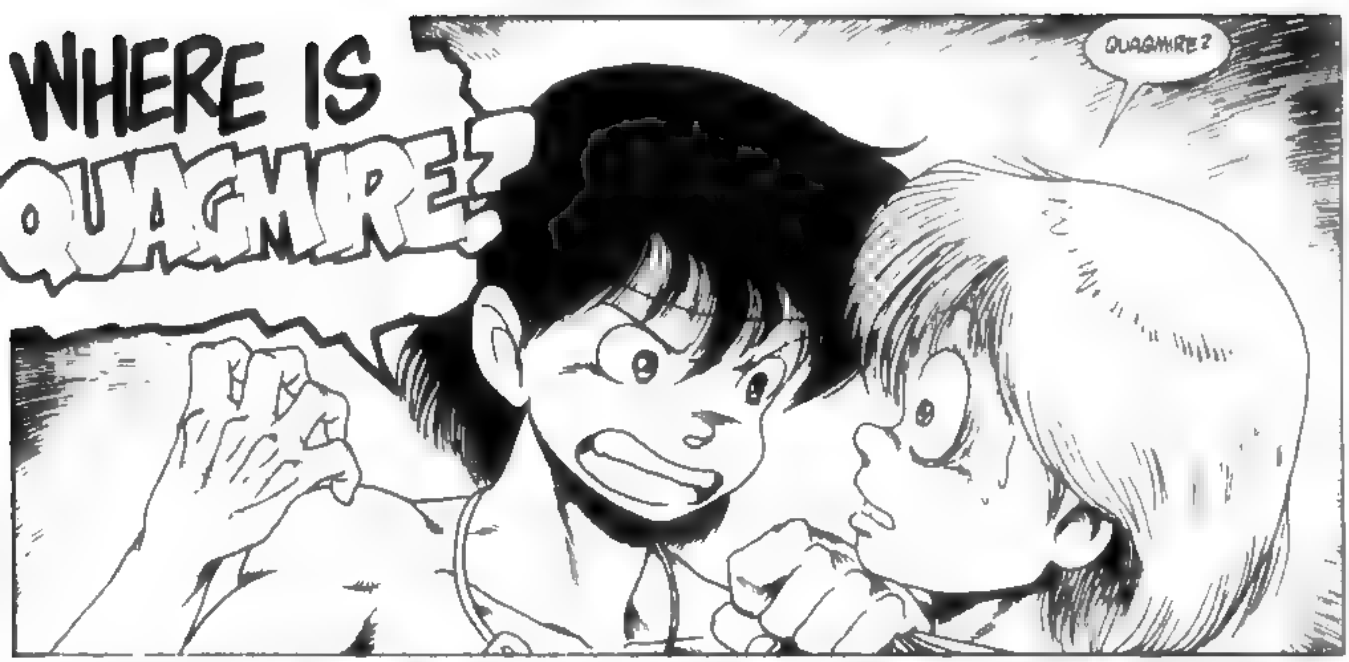
LEAP

YAH!

YOU!

THE SOLUTIONERS

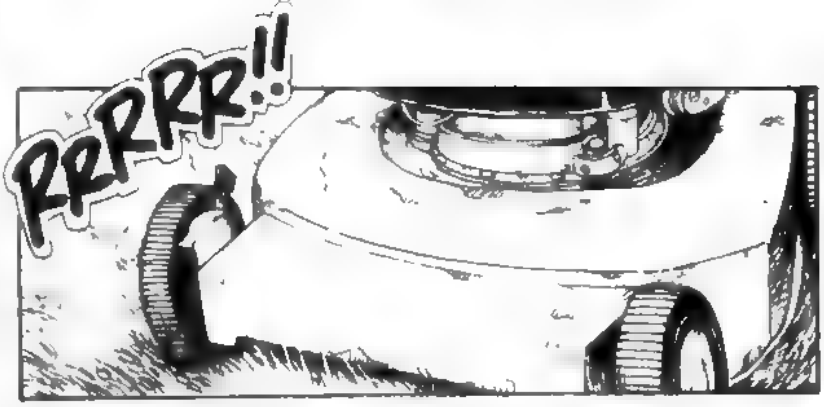
WHERE IS QUAGMIRE?



HA!!
SWISSH!!
HUP
!
OOF!
SLIDDE!!

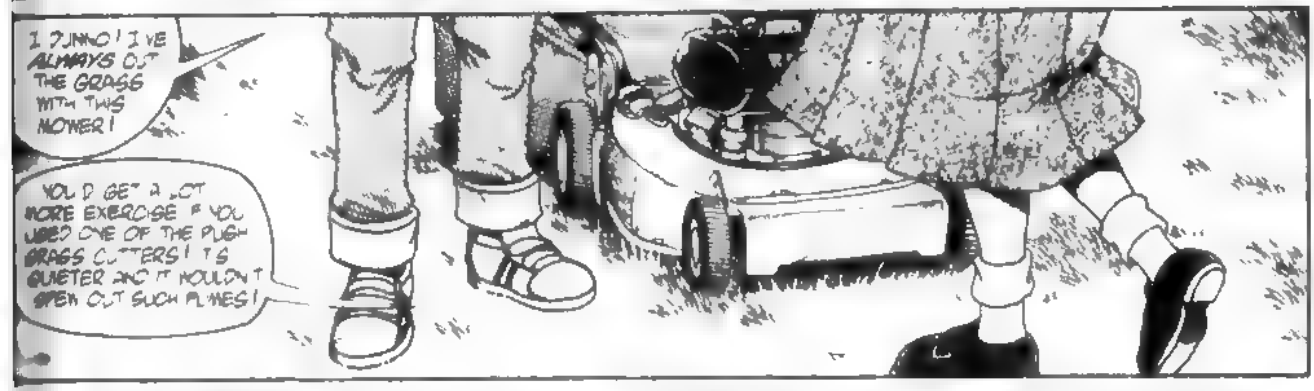
NOT BAD RICKY YOU'RE STILL A LITTLE CLUMSY ON YOUR DOWN SWING
YOU'LL NEED TO DO MUCH BETTER THAN THAT!
BUT YOU'RE BIGGER THAN ME!
SIZE MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO A TRUE NINJA!
IS NOT HOW BIG YOU ARE BUT HOW SMART YOU ARE!
OH SOMEONE TOLD ME THAT NINJAS DON'T EXIST!
THAT'S RIDICULOUS! WHAT IDIOT TOLD YOU THAT?
SOME GUYS I KNOW
"THE SKILL OF NINJUTSU STILL LIVES TO THIS DAY. RICKY HALE IS TALE THAT EARLY NINJAS WERE TRAINED AS ASSASSINS, THINGS HAVE IMPROVED SINCE THEN. NINJUTSU IS A SKILL LIKE ANY OTHER TO BE USED FOR EITHER GOOD OR EVIL!"

BESIDES A REAL NINJA WOULDN'T BLOW HIS COVER!


RRRRR!!

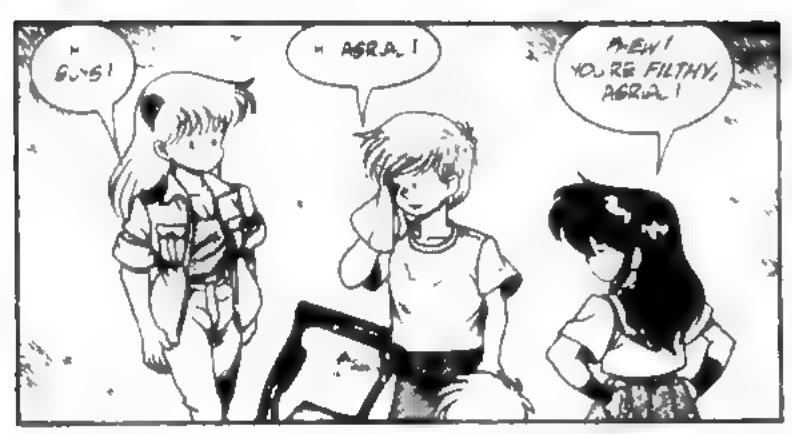
JEREMY! WHY DO YOU INSIST ON USING THAT NOISY THING?
HUH? OH? I CAN'T HEAR YOU!
RRRRRR!!!

I SAID WHY DO YOU USE SUCH A NOISY MACHINE?"
WHY?


I DUNNO! I'VE ALWAYS CUT THE GRASS WITH THIS MOWER!
YOU'D GET A LOT MORE EXERCISE IF YOU USED ONE OF THE PUSH GRASS CUTTERS! IT'S QUIETER AND IT WOULDN'T SPEW OUT SUCH FUMES!

GEE, OH! THIS IS FASTER AND EASIER!
THAT'S THE TROUBLE WITH BOYS HERE! THEY ARE SO LAZY! THEY NEVER WANT TO DO ANYTHING THAT INVOLVES WORK!

WELL, I DON'T EXACTLY SEE YOU CUTTING GRASS!
OF COURSE NOT! THAT'S BOY'S WORK!


GUYS!
AGRIA!
PHEW! YOU'RE FILTHY, AGRIA!

OF COURSE! I HAD TO OVERHAUL SOME GUY'S CAR AT THE GARAGE! YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THE MILEAGE ON THAT THING!

ANYWAY I'M GOING TO WASH UP!
YEAH ME TOO I'M ALL PINGED OUT HERE

HEY WE COULD SHOWER TOGETHER AND SAVE WATER AT THE SAME TIME
UH
DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT!

HA! HA! I'M JUST TEASING CHI! YOU'RE SO SENSITIVE!
WELL IT'S NOT FUNNY!

SIGH!
I THOUGHT IT WAS A GOOD IDEA!
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS!
IS PRACTICE OVER CHIZ
SOMETHING ABOUT THE ODOR OF THE HUMAN MALE SEEMS TO MAKE ME TINGLE INSIDE
I WONDER IF HE FEELS THE SAME ABOUT ME

WELL I HAD BETTER HURRY
APPLE CORES FROM MY TREE!
SOMEONE'S BEEN IN MY TREE WITHOUT MY PERMISSION!
WELL I'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS!
RUN! RUN!
HELLO, AMBER
SOMEONE TOOK SOME APPLES FROM YOU AND I'LL BE SURE TO MAKE THEM STOP!
BUT SHE SAID IT WAS OKAY

WHO ARE YOU AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY TRIBE?
HUD
MY NAME IS NOT IMPORTANT AND SINCE WHEN IS AN OBJECT OF NATURE YOUR PROPERTY?
I JUST SO HAPPENS THAT I ASKED "YOUR" TREE FOR PROVISION TO EAT ITS FRUIT!
WHA YOU
OF COURSE WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM A WHITE GIRL?
DIDN'T YOUR PARENTS TEACH YOU PROPER RESPECT? WOMEN ARE TO NEVER QUESTION THE MOTIVES OF MEN.
LOOK! I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU COME FROM, BUT AROUND HERE WE'RE TREATED AS EQUALS!
"TREATED AS EQUALS"?
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
THAT'S ABSURD!

WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
HA! HA! HA!
EVERYONE KNOWS THAT WOMAN ARE ONLY GOOD FOR DOING CHORES AND BEARING CHILDREN!
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
YOU LOOK OLD ENOUGH TO HAVE CHILDREN. DO YOU HAVE A HUSBAND?
NO NOT YET
I SEE NOW I UNDERSTAND YOUR ANGER!
IT'S OBVIOUS THAT YOU CANNOT FIND A SPOUSE! I HAVE HEARD THAT WHEN WOMEN CANNOT GET A MAN THEY BECOME VERY SHORT-TEMPERED
THAT'S A LIE! I COULD HAVE ANYONE I WANT!
HAH! WHO'D WANT A WOMAN THAT ACTS LIKE A MAN?
WOMEN SHOULD BE SEEN NOT HEARD!
YOU... NEVER GET A PROPER HUSBAND. YOU'LL END UP BEING AN OLD MAID!
POINT.
THAT DOES IT!

HAAH!
SWIISH!
THROW!
ENTANGLE!
WHAT YOU NEED IS A WAY TO TAME THAT PERSON!
SHOW YOU JUST HOW FIERY MY SOUL CAN REALLY GET!
BURST!
POOF!
POOF!

WHAT IS GOING ON OUT THERE?
WHO IS THAT?
SWISH!
EXCUSE ME, YOUNG MAN!
JUST WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
?
!
WHAM!!
FFWHEEEE
IDIOT!
OH NO

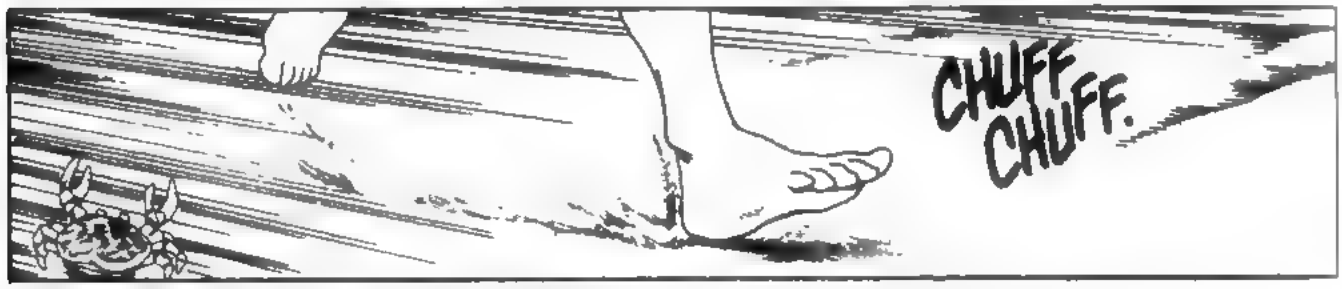
AGRA! WHO WAS THAT?
SUG! SOME TRESPASSER. OH! I GOT RID OF HIM!
HOPEFULLY, HE'LL SEEN THE LAST OF HIM!
?
UNUSUAL SEED
I'M VERY FAMILIAR WITH THE PLANTS AROUND HERE. I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A THING
AGRA! DON'T LOOK NOW BUT HE'S COMING BACK!
RRRUMMBLE
DON'T HAVE ENOUGH EH?
OOH, HE DROPPED SOME BOTTLE-CAPS SODA-TABS
KRAASH!

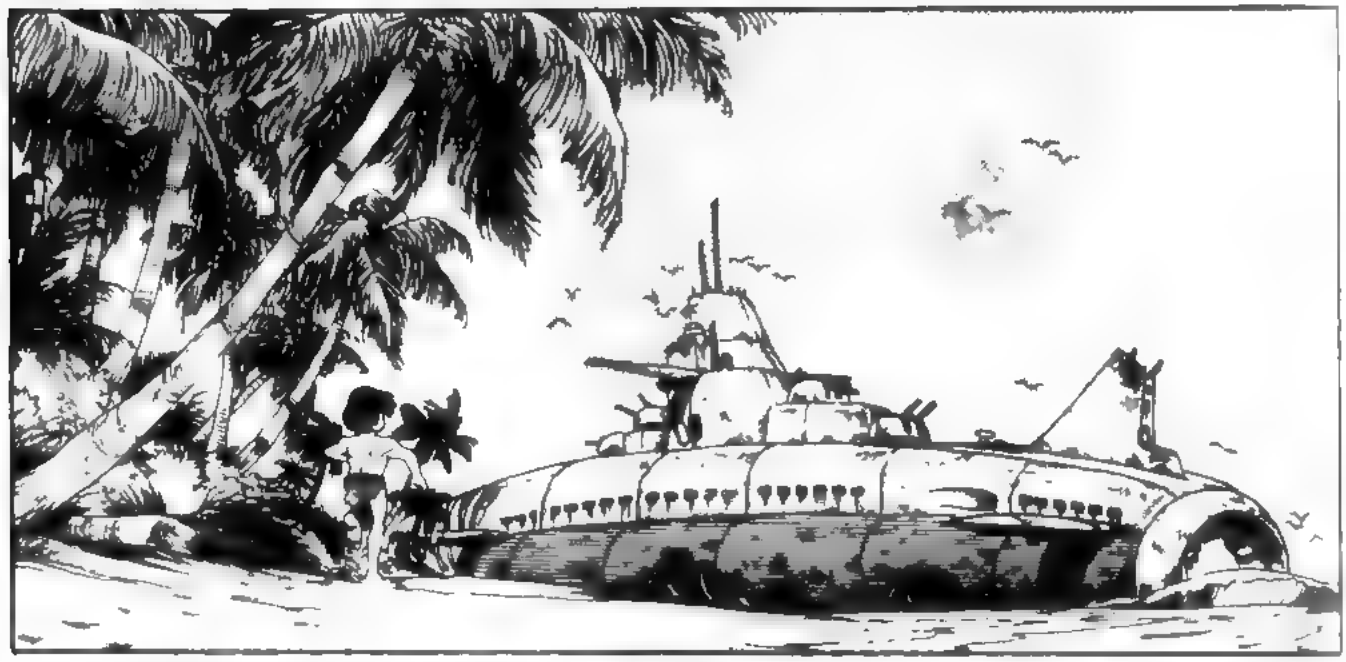
I'M READY FOR YOU!
ICH! WHAT'S GOING ON?
THIS BOY'S CHALLENGING ZGRUL!
NO!
SNIF. SNIF.
SNIF. SNIF.
SNIF. SNIF.
SNIF. SNIF.
SSNNIIFF!
I FOUND YOU!

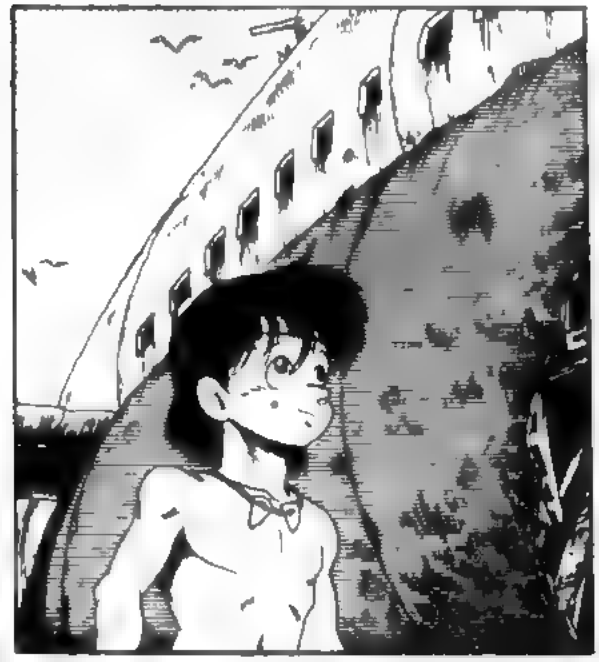
HUG!
SNUG!
FINALLY!
BAKOOM!
GEEZ
HEY YOU! WAKE UP!
LOOK HE'S AWAKE!
YOUNG MAN... WHO ARE YOU AND WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH MY NIECE?
HUMPH MY NAME IS AKARI KAITO I AS TO MY PURPOSE HERE
...I WANT TO MAKE HER MY WIFE!!
ARISE!

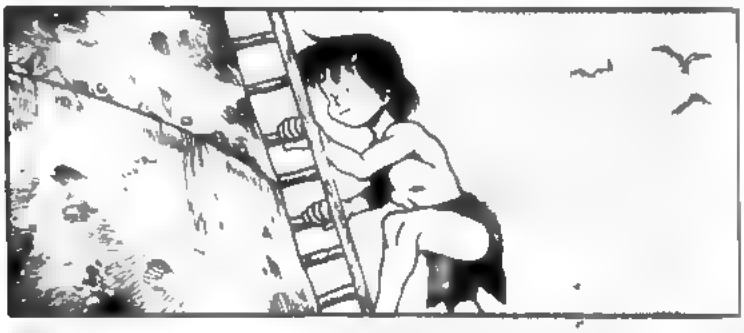
WHAT?
YOU ARE THE ONE DESTINED TO BE MY WIFE! IT IS THE WILL OF THE GODS!
NOW HOLD ON THERE!
WHO ARE YOU?
MY NAME IS JEREMY AND I'M ENGAGED TO OH!
OH JEREMY? REALLY?
I MEAN, UH I'M NOT REALLY GOING
THEN YOU DON'T MEAN
HOW SPINELESS! HERE IS A WOMAN WHO DESIRES YOU AND YOU WON'T TAKE HER!
YOU ARE A SEA CUCUMBER!
IS THAT SO? WELL I'M JUST WAITING
AKARI! WHY DID YOU COME HERE?
IT IS A LONG STORY THAT STARTS MANY YEARS AGO
GURGLY-GURGLY GLAD

SHUSH...


CHUFF CHUFF.







AH!

CLING. CLING
HI! HI!
IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN
HEY! TIKKI!
WHAT IS IT TIKKI. I DID YOU FIND SOME-THING?
SHOW ME!
WHAT IS IT?!

LOOK AT THIS! IT'S SMOOTH LIKE A SHELL AND YOU CAN SEE THROUGH IT!
I'LL GOT TO SHOW POPPA!
SPLOSH
POPPA! POPPA!
DO NOT DISTURB ME AKARI! MEN ARE NOT TO BE BURDENED BY THE QUERIES OF ANNOYING LITTLE CHILDREN!
I AM MEDITATING!
GO ASK YOUR MOTHER
HUMPH! ALL HE DOES IS STAND THERE AND GET WET!
STOP! SEA! YOU DIVE ON THIS ISLAND!
SPLOSH!
MOMMA! MOMMA!
WHAT IS IT AKARI?

MMM IT'S A BOTTLE!

A BOTTLE? I THOUGHT IT WAS A CLEAR SEA SHELL?
OH NO WHERE THIS COMES FROM PEOPLE DRINK FROM IT

THEY DO?
THIS IS A PRODUCT OF CIVILIZATION!

THAT'S WHERE POPPA COMES FROM!

THERE'S A MESSAGE INSIDE.
"TO WHOEVER FINDS THIS BOTTLE I AM A SIX-YEAR OLD GIRL AND I WANT TO BE YOUR FRIEND."

SNIF

SNIF

I WILL BE HER FRIEND!
RESOLVE!

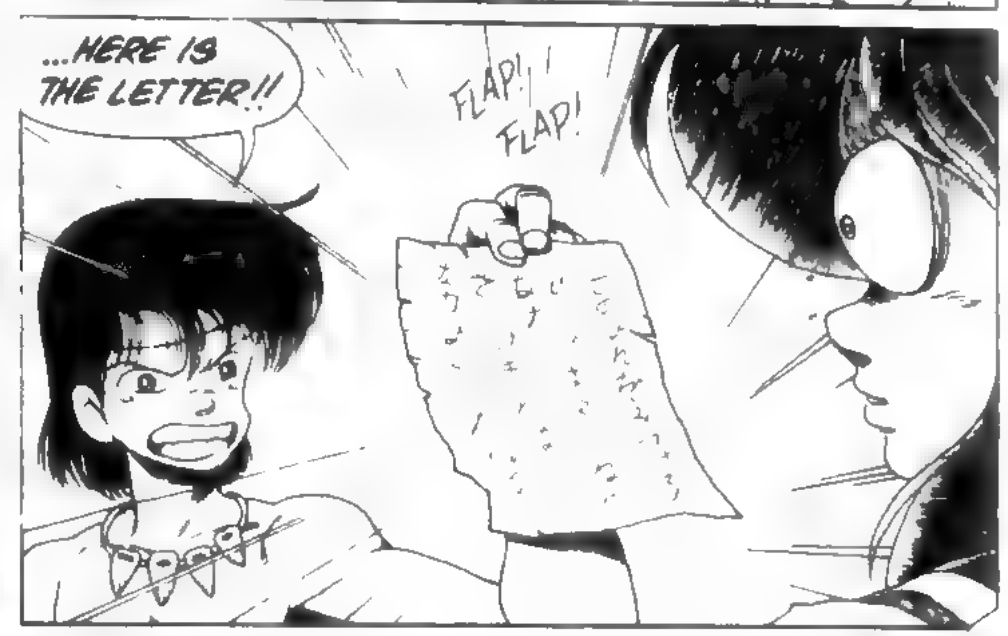
BUT YOU'RE STILL TOO YOUNG!
I DON'T CARE!

EVEN IF I HAVE TO WAIT A HUNDRED YEARS I'LL FIND HER AND MAKE HER MY FRIEND!

MAY I HAVE THE MESSAGE NOW?
CERTAINLY AFTER ALL YOU FOUND IT!

SNIF. SNIF.
SHE SMELLS PRETTY
AND I HAVE SEARCHED FOR TEN YEARS TO FIND YOU!

A FANCY STORY BUT IS IT TRUE?
BUT IF YOU NEED PROOF


...HERE IS THE LETTER!!
FLAP! FLAP!

THIS CAN'T BE THE SAME LETTER I SENT SO MANY YEARS AGO AT TOYAMA!
IF YOU SEND A MESSAGE ON WHOEVER FINDS THIS BE YOUR FRIEND
I CAN!
SHOVE
QUIET, WEAKLING!
HOLD ON THERE!
JUST A MINUTE! NO ONE TREATS MY JEREMY THAT WAY!
POOF!

COUGH! COUGH!
TAP
I'M SORRY ICHI BUT IT'S THE ONLY WAY
POUF!
AGRIAL! WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING!
OH JEREMY HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED THAT SHE MIGHT WANT SOMEONE ELSE?
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT?!
WELL IT'S JUST THAT I STILL HAVE FEELINGS TOWARD YOU AND WITH ICHI OUT
AGRIAL! YOU AND ICHI ARE BOTH MY FRIENDS! I FEEL FOR YOU JUST AS I DO FOR ICHI
YOU DO THEN I STILL HAVE A CHANCE?
COME BACK!

YOU ALWAYS HAD A CHANCE
NOW LET'S GET OH. BACK!
!
THANK YOU JEREMY!
MADE IT NOW TO WAIT FOR SIGMUND
OH! YOU'RE MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN I COULD POSSIBLY HAVE IMAGINED!
YOU DESERVE A STRONG MAN! NOT THESE SOFT IMAGES OF MEN CREATED BY CIVILIZATION!
THEY WOULD HAVE ONLY DILUTED YOUR INNER STRENGTH!

AKARI! STOP!
OH NO! NOT YOU AGAIN?!

YOU'RE ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT HOW SOFT WE ARE, BUT PROVE IT!
DON'T BE STUPID! YOU WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE!

THEN I CHALLENGE YOU TO A DUEL!
JEREMY NO

I ACCEPT

NINJA
HIGH SCHOOL
RIVALRY AND WAR!
ARTER ARTIST
BEN DUNN
LETTERER
CLEM ROBINS
EDITED BY
CHRIS ULM

OKAY! LET'S DO IT HERE AND NOW!
VERY WELL!
JEREMY WAIT! I DON'T THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO FIGHT HIM DIRECTLY!
THEN WHAT SHOULD I DO ASKAL?
ALWAYS LISTENING TO FEMALES FOR ADVICE WHAT A DISGRACE
C'MON I'LL HELP YOU OUT!
WAIT HERE JUST A MINUTE ASKAL!
I'LL BE BACK!
RUNNING AWAY LIKE A WOMAN
HOW DO YOU FEEL?
YOU'RE AWAKE!

GAS ME, WILL YOU?!!

KARUCH!

SSKKKIID!

NOW W... YOU LEAVE ME ALONE?

YOU'RE FANTASTIC!!

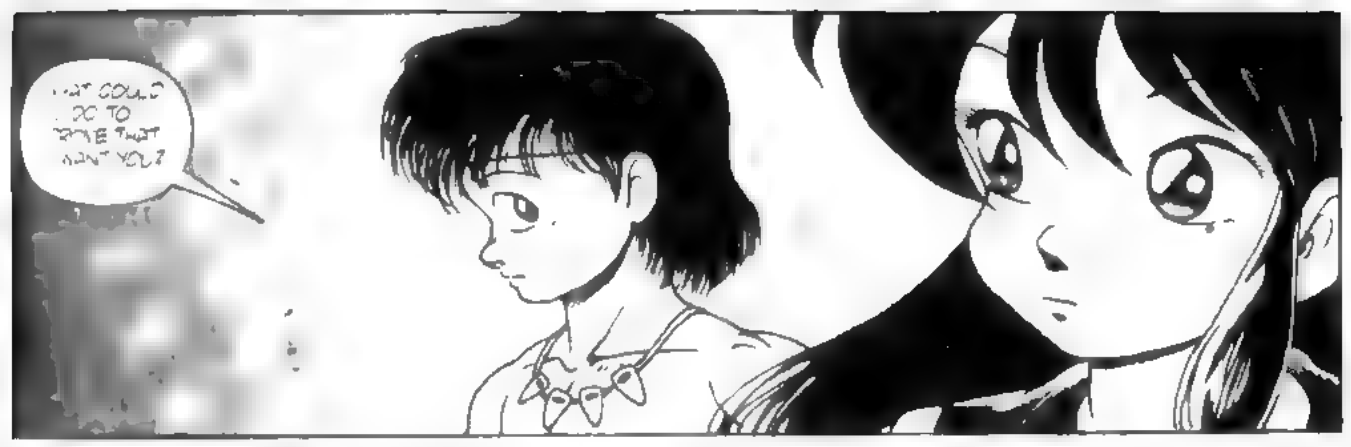
YOU ARE A WOMAN WORTHY OF A WARRIOR!
LAND!

ISLAND PARADISE!

REFUSE ME?

COULDN'T
PUSHY!

?


WHAT COULD I DO TO PROVE THAT I WANT YOU?

HEY! HE'S PUTTING THE MOVES ON US!
TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES JEREMY!

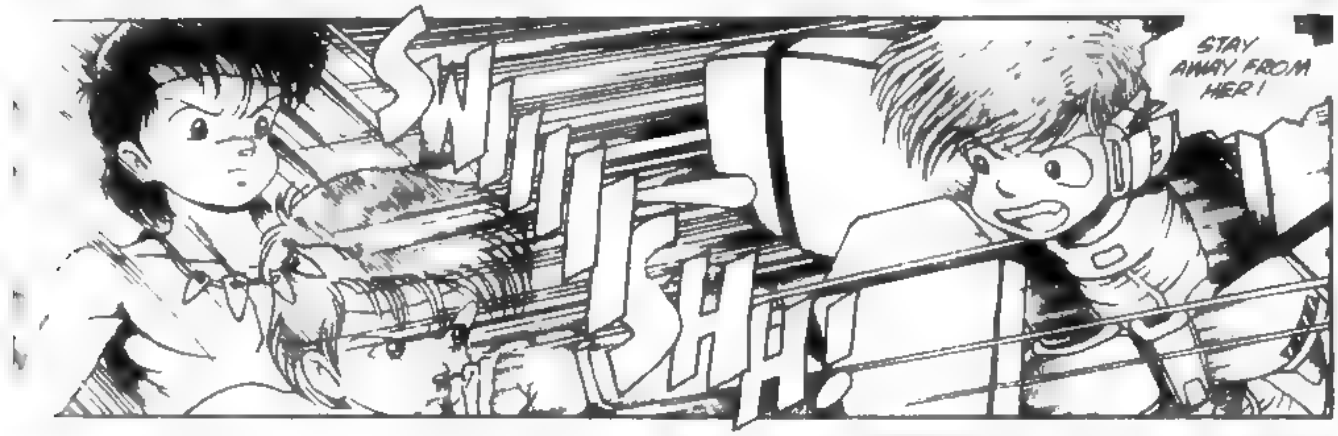
HEY!!
C'MON! WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME!
STOP WRIGGLING! I'M TRYING TO HELP!
THERE! A PERFECT FIT!
PERFECT!

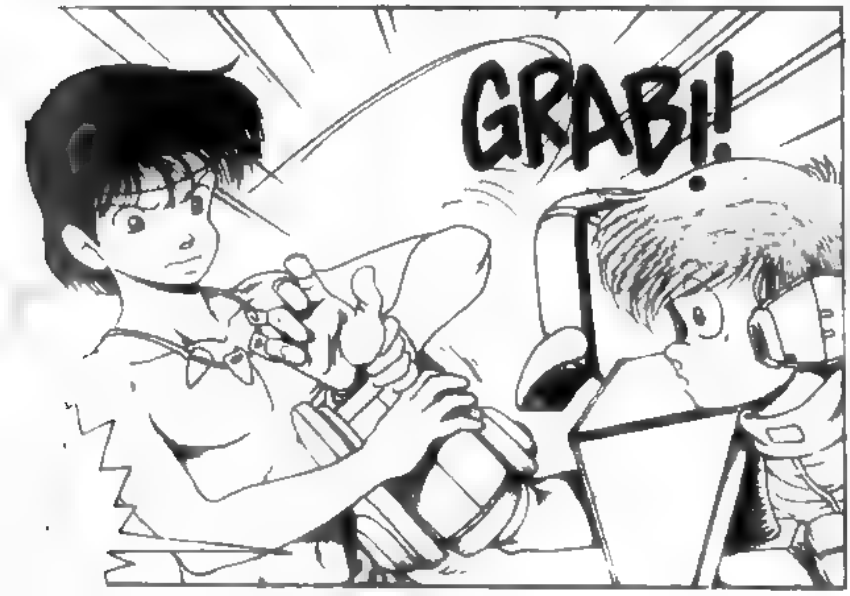
AKARI!! I'M READY FOR YOU NOW!
HO! HO! HO!
THUD
SSIIINNKKKKKK
ARH! ARH! ARH!
OH JEREY!

OOPS

GRRR!!
FOOM!

OH! LOOK OUT!
WHAT?!

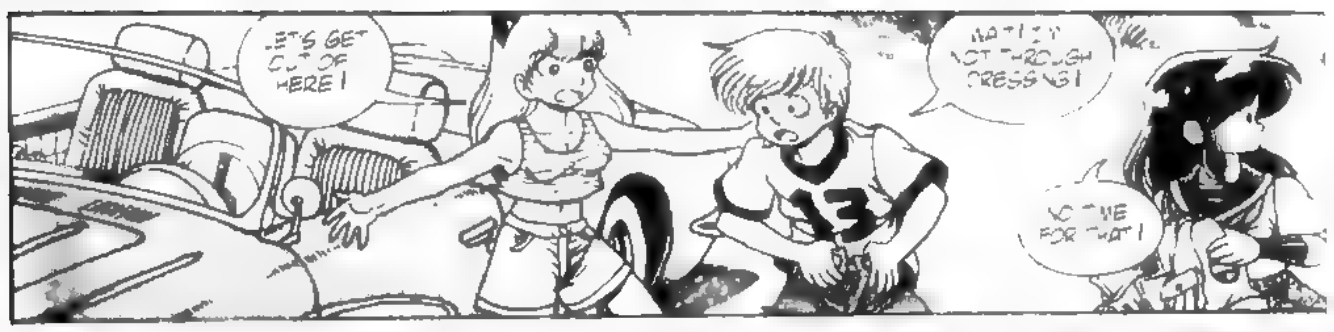

SWIIIISH!
STAY AWAY FROM HER!


GRAB!!

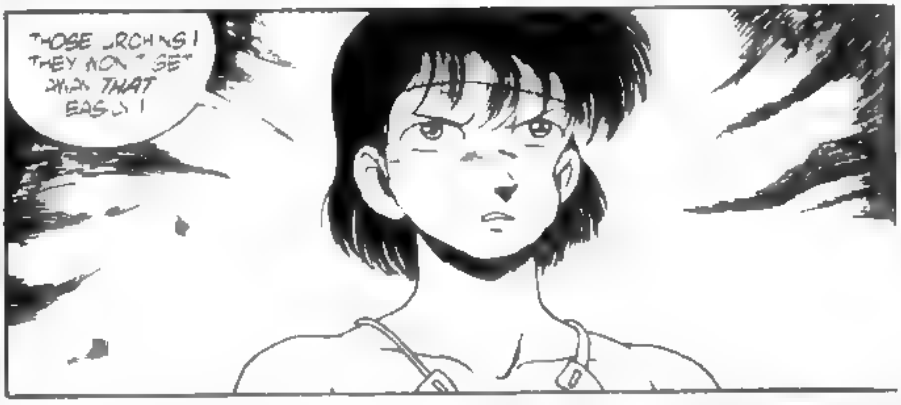
SO THE LITTLE HERMIT CRAB HAS SOME BACKBONE, EH?

RREE...
...NNCCHH!
YIKES!
I'M GOING TO TEAR YOU OUT OF THAT SHELL!
RRRIP!
I'M BEING BEATEN! NOT EVEN AGRIUS ARMOR CAN STAND UP TO THIS GUY!
WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS HE?!
?!
GRASP!

SPLOSH
SUMMW!! THAT WAS CLOSE!
GOOD! LET'S GET JEREMY!
THANK GOODNESS I WAS ABLE TO ACTIVATE THE ROBOT BY REMOTE CONTROL!
YOU MEAN I DON'T BEAT HIM?
OF COURSE NOT!
SPLOSH!
UP-OH
ICHI! I'M COMING FOR YOU!

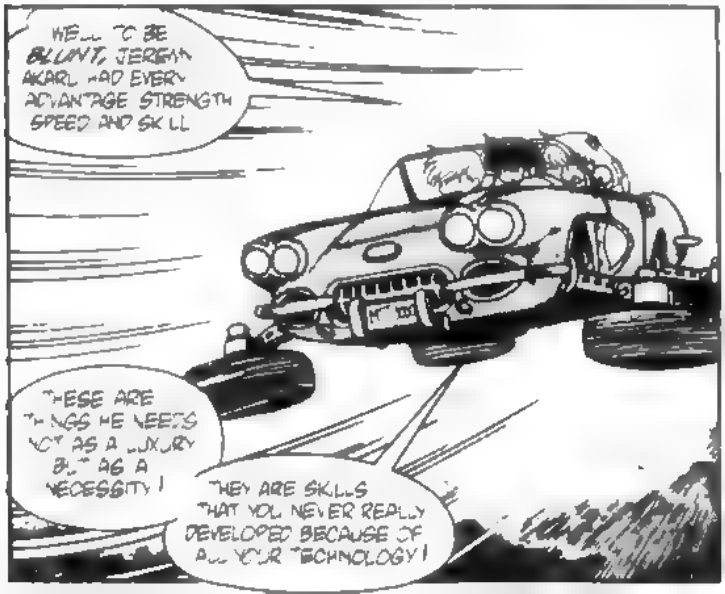

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
NOT THROUGH DRESSING!
NO TIME FOR THAT!

COWARDS!
LEAVE!

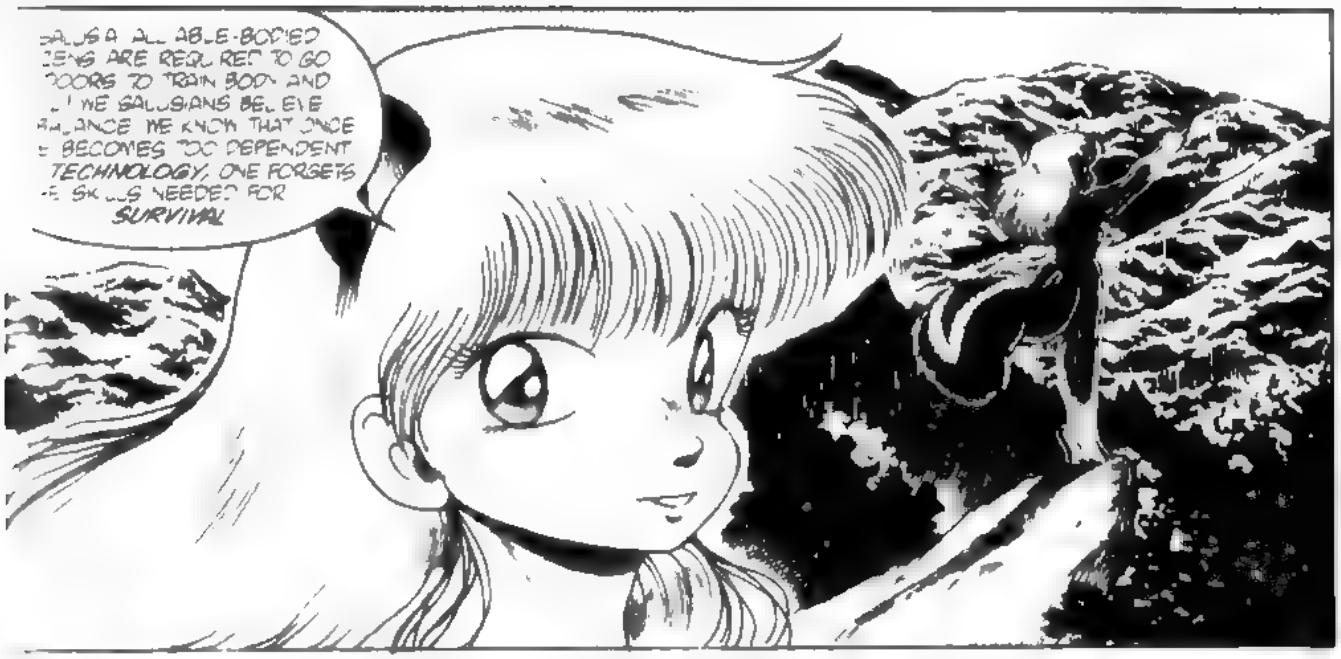

THOSE URCHINS! THEY WON'T GET AWAY THAT EASILY!

COME ON SYLVIO! I KNOW A SHORT CUT TO THE RUNS RESIDENCE!

I SURE HATED TO RUN AWAY IT SEEMS LIKE THAT'S ALL WE DO!
BUT YOU JEREMY YOU DON'T REALLY STAND A CHANCE!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?


WELL TO BE BLUNT, JEREMY AKARI HAD EVERY ADVANTAGE STRENGTH SPEED AND SKILL
THESE ARE THINGS HE NEEDS NOT AS A LUXURY BUT AS A NECESSITY!
THEY ARE SKILLS THAT YOU NEVER REALLY DEVELOPED BECAUSE OF ALL YOUR TECHNOLOGY!

WHAT ABOUT YOU, ASRAEL? YOU HAVE MORE TECHNOLOGY THAN I DO!
THAT'S DIFFERENT!


SALUSA ALL ABLE-BODIED CITIZENS ARE REQUIRED TO GO OUTDOORS TO TRAIN BODY AND MIND! WE SALUSIANS BELIEVE IN BALANCE. WE KNOW THAT ONCE A PERSON BECOMES TOO DEPENDENT ON TECHNOLOGY, ONE FORGETS THE SKILLS NEEDED FOR SURVIVAL

SHE'S RIGHT JEREMY! SPIRIT AND BODY MUST BE IN HARMONY! TOO MANY PEOPLE HAVE GONE SOFT IN THIS ERA OF CONVENIENCE! MY NINJA TRAINING TAUGHT ME THAT!

GIVE ME A BREAK! YOU CAN'T TELL ME THAT YOU'D RATHER NOT HAVE ALL THE STUFF WE HAVE NOW!
HMMM... I GUESS SO. I DO LIKE MY HAIR-DRYER
WELL, IT'S A BALANCE YOU SEE

ALDRIS NEVER HAD ANY OF THESE TECHNOLOGIES. HE HAD TO BUILD HIS SKILLS FOR SURVIVAL!

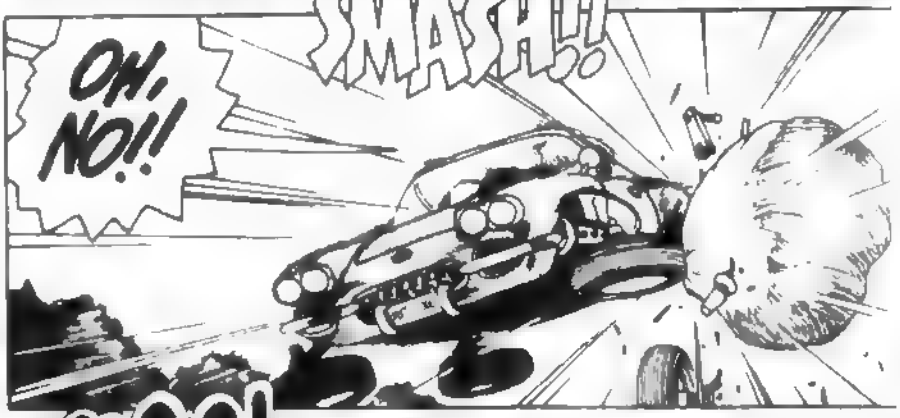
I'LL HAVE TO THINK ABOUT IT. HE DOES HAVE A NICE BODY
YOU'RE RIGHT AND BESIDES HE'S GOT A CUTE TUSH
ALL RIGHT! ALL RIGHT! I'M NO CHARLES ATLAS!!

I GUESS I AM JUST A SCRAWNY HEADLING!
OH NO, CERBY! YOU WERE VERY BRAVE TOO!

BESIDES YOU'RE OUR SCRAWNY HEADLING
HEY!

CUT IT OUT YOU TWO! WE'RE ALMOST HOME!

THROW!!


OH, NO!!
SMASH!!

TOSS! THROW!
THAT'S ENOUGH! BRING THAT BLINGTHING DOWN!

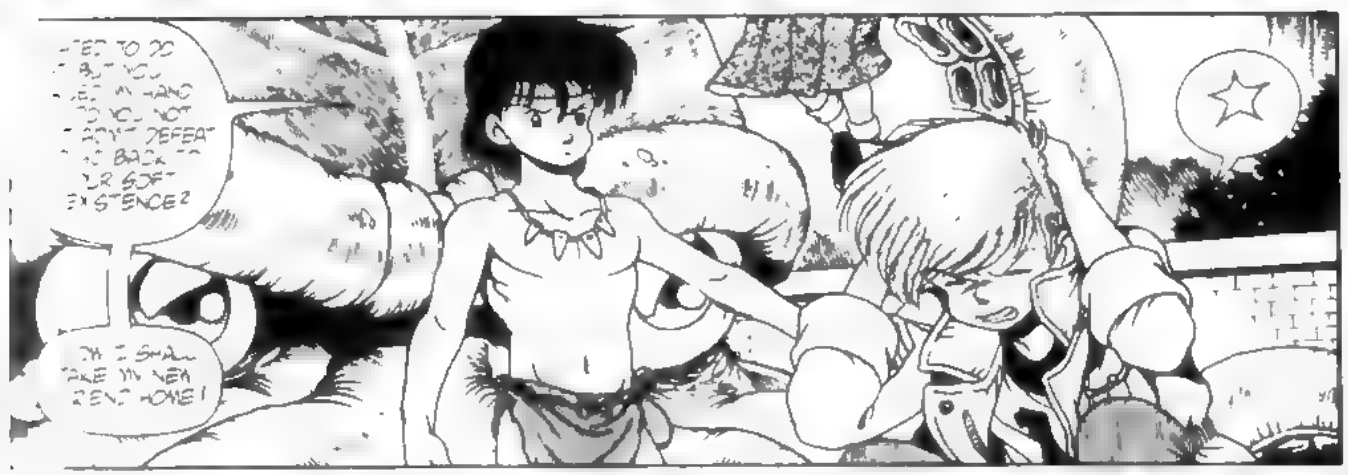
PREAD!
PREAD!
WERE OUT OF CONTROL!
AHH!
I GROW! SPROUT!!
SPROUT!
GROW!! GROW!!
SLAM!!
MST 3000
THAT DOES IT! JEREMY, WAIT HERE! I'M GOING TO GET SOMETHING FOR YOU!
SIRA! WAIT!

KLAK!
WHOOM!
OH TALE THEEM OUT OF HERE!
RIGHT!
SHIINK!!

SLAM...
CRASHH
SHUSSHH!
AHH!
GRASP!
ICHI!!!
GOOD WORK BIGHAND. NOW...BE'G GO HOME!
DON'T BE UPSET YO... SAOM NEW "ENTACLES!

A SECOND SHADOW?
SNAG!
WHAM!

JEREMY!


☆

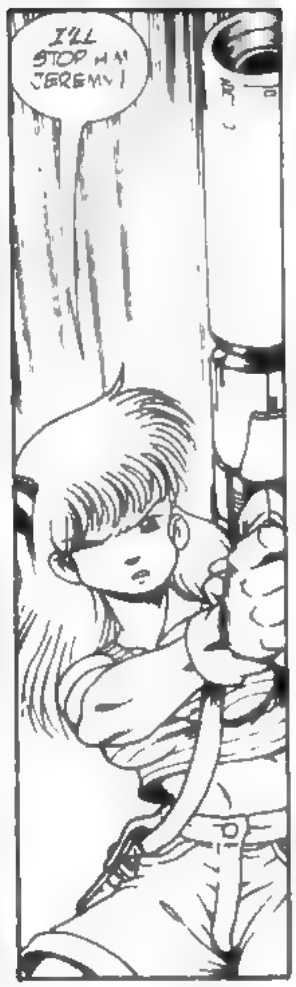
NEVER

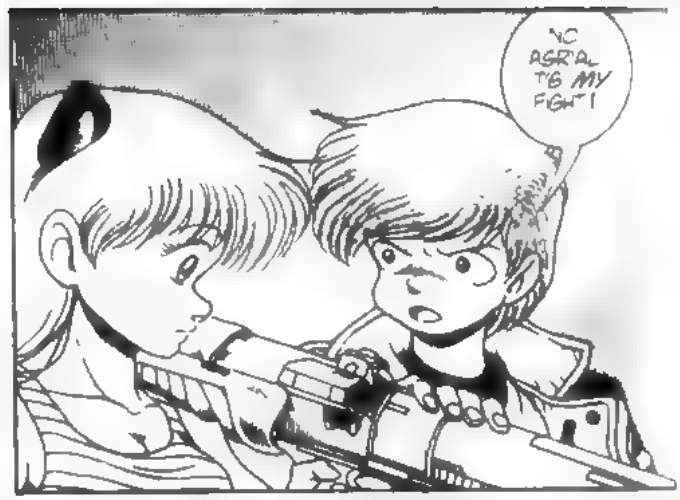
PARADISE!

DESERVE
HEAVEN IS
GOOD ENOUGH
FOR YOU

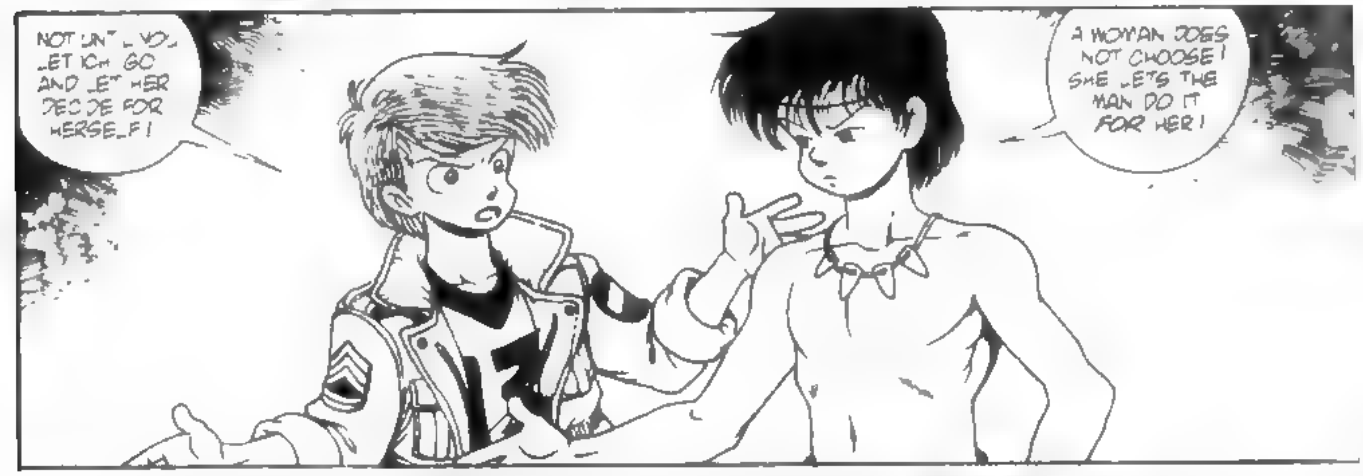
WET!

Uhh
JEREMY! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
SLITHER SLITHER


I'LL STOP HIM JEREMY!


NO AGRIAL THIS IS MY FIGHT!

STOP, AKARU!!
AGAIN? DON'T YOU KNOW WHEN TO QUIT?
BUS STOP


NOT UNTIL YOU LET HIM GO AND LET HER DECIDE FOR HERSELF!
A WOMAN DOES NOT CHOOSE! SHE LETS THE MAN DO IT FOR HER!

THAT MAY BE TRUE WHERE YOU COME FROM, BUT HERE WE LET OUR WOMEN DECIDE FOR THEMSELVES! IT IS THEIR RIGHT!
TOO MANY WORDS! NO WONDER YOUR SOCIETY IS SOFT!
I SEE YOU WILL NOT REASON YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE!

LET HER GO!

KICK!
THAT'S YOUR SOLUTION FOR EVERYTHING, SAYS THE THAT'S THE WAY PEOPLE LIKE YOU FOLLOW LOGIC. YOU CAN'T HAVE SOME THING YOU TAKE IT!
THAT'S THE LAW! THE STRONG TAKE FROM THE WEAK!
WELL WE HERE HAVE PROGRESSED. A LITTLE FURTHER THAN THAT! WE TRY TO TEMPER OUR INSTINCTS WITH HUMAN INTELLECT!
AND LOOK AT YOU! SEE THE PUPPY ANIMAL YOU ARE! OUT IN THE WILD YOU WOULDN'T SURVIVE A MINUTE!

NOW IF YOU DO NOT WIND I SHA... TAKE MY BRIDE BACK TO MY ISLAND!
GO BACK TO YOUR WAY OF LIFE AND FIND SOME SOFT LITTLE WOMAN AND MAKE SOFT LITTLE CHILDREN!
JEREMY?
NO! YOU CAN'T HAVE HER!
GRAPPLE!

THIS HAS GONE FAR ENOUGH!
YATAH!
U.S. ARMY
SKKRREEE
I DON'T YOU ARE BRAVE BUT IT IS NO USE YOU CANNOT DEFEAT ME!
DON'T GO

THERE MUST BE A WAY TO GET HIM!
AKARI, I HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU.
TOSS!!
CATCH!
LIBERTY
1964
SHINIES!
SO MANY!!

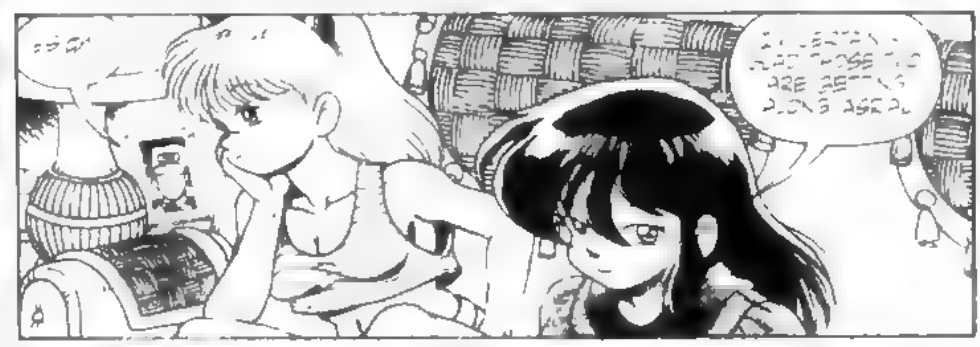
GLUG.
GLAG!! WHAT WAS THAT?
GAHH!
?!

ALL RIGHT!
13
HEH
WHUM!

GAME OVER

OF COURSE, YOU DON'T SEE THAT TRAP?

I WANT TO TRY AGAIN!
THIS TIME I GO FIRST!
DON'T YOU WISH THE EFFECT OF THE JUICE WAS PERMANENT?
NOT ME! I LIKE JEREMY THE WAY HE IS!



END

PROLOGUE

HAVE YOU MADE CONTACT
YES SIR
HELLO?
THIS IS CAPTAIN SOANDSO!
YES, SIR!!
WHY ASK WHY?
THIS IS A TOP SECRET TRANSMISSION! YOU HAVE NEW ORDERS AND THEY MUST BE CARRIED OUT AT ALL COSTS!
WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE EARTH SOLDIER WILL ZARDOX ATTACK! THEREFORE PRINCESS ASRIAL MUST BE RETURNED TO SALUSIA AT ONCE!

Destiny
STORY & ART -
BEN DUNN
PLOT ASSIST -
ALAN McDONNUGGEND
LETTERS -
GLEN ROBBINS

I CANNOT BELIEVE THIS FATHER! YOU WOULD TRUST THESE LIES OVER THE TEST NOW OF YOUR OWN SON?

REMEMBER KALEN YOU ARE NOT OF FULL ROYAL BLOOD SO DON'T CALL ME FATHER
YOUR MOTHER IS NOT THE QUEEN!

ACCORDING TO MY INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS YOU WERE SEEN PASSING INFORMATION TO A ZARDON
A SERIOUS OFFENSE DURING A TIME OF WAR!

HE WAS A FRIEND!
A ZARDON? A FRIEND? IMPOSSIBLE NO SOULS AN WOULD EVER COME IN CONTACT WITH A ZARDON!

HE IS A FREE TRADER HE HAS NO ALLEGIANCE TO THE ZARDON EMPIRE!

NO MATTER! THE ZARDONS ARE OUR ENEMIES! HOW IS THE PUBLIC GOING TO REACT IF THE PRINCE CONSORTS WITH THE ENEMY?
THEY'LL BRAND YOU A TRAITOR!

I WILL NOT GIVE UP MY FRIENDSHIP WITH HIM

I UNDERSTAND YOUR DOUBTS, FATHER
I HAVE MADE MY DECISION
BUT I MUST STICK TO MY CONVICTIONS!
THINK CAREFULLY ABOUT WHAT YOU ARE SAYING, KALEN
YOU'LL BE GIVING UP MUCH FOR A PARDON!
SO THEN

SLAM
KALEN! KALEN!
AGRIAL! HOW ARE YOU?
KALEN! ARE WE GOING TO THE PARK TODAY?
I'M AFRAID NOT, AGRIAL. I'M GOING AWAY
REALLY? WHERE?
I DO NOT KNOW AGRIAL I'LL PROBABLY BE FAR AWAY
IN FACT, YOU MAY NEVER SEE ME AGAIN
NEVER? BUT I'LL MISS YOU!
I'LL MISS YOU TOO, AGRIAL

IT'S BECAUSE OF FATHER I'M FORCED TO ROAM THE SEA OF STARS! A GALLIGAN WITHOUT A PLANET!
BUT SOMEDAY... SOMEDAY I WILL RETURN TO MY RIGHTFUL PLACE!
MUNCH. CHEW.
MMMM. THESE COOKIES TASTE A BIT BLAND!
NORMALLY THEY COME OUT BETTER THAN THIS!
NESTLE! COME IN HERE!
YES, SIR!
YES, CAPTAIN?
HAS THE CRAW BEEN IN MY PANTRY AGAIN?

THESE COOKIES ARE BLAND!

'TIS THE WAR, SIR! THINGS HAVE BEEN TIGHT!

CURSE THIS WAR! GOOD INGREDIENTS ARE BECOMING MORE AND MORE SCARCE!

OH, BY THE WAY CAPTAIN ..WE INTERCEPTED A CODED TRANSMISSION FROM SPLUSIA!

OH, GOODIE! PUT IT ON!

COMMUNICATIONS ARE PIPING IT IN NOW SIR

I KNOW HOW MUCH YOU LOVE GETTING MESSAGES!

YOU RE SO KIND NESTLE!

RECEPTION S A LITTLE FUZZY

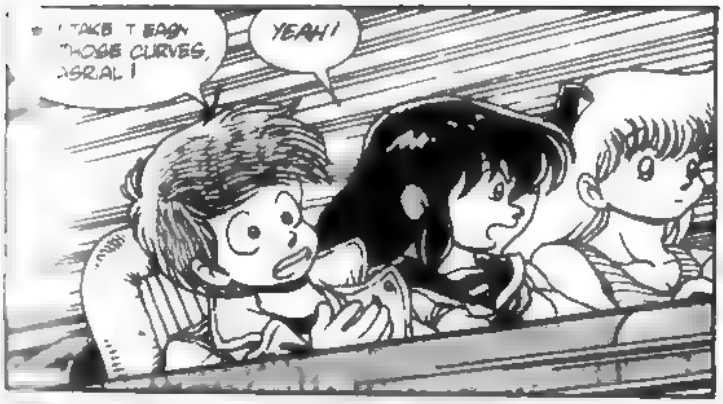
THIS IS CAPTAIN SOANDSO RELAYING A PRIORITY MESSAGE TO CONGLOMERATE MEMBERS!

A NEW ZARDON OFFENSIVE HAS BEGUN ON THE EASTERN SECTOR! SEVERAL MAJOR SYSTEMS HAVE ALREADY FALLEN! IT IS REPORTED THEY ARE USING MONSTERS TO SPEARHEAD THE ATTACK!

CONGLOMERATE MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO ACTIVATE ALL MONSTERS IN THEIR SECTORS AND CONSOLIDATE IN SECTOR G71

MONSTERS, EH? I WOULD HAVE LIKE TO SEE THEM!
WHAT'S THE CAPTAIN? ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT EITHER ONE USING MONSTERS?
YES
EVER SINCE THEY DISCOVERED HOW TO MAKE THEM, IT WAS THOUGHT THEY COULD BE USED AS A DETERRENT A THREAT NEVER TO BE USED!
ONCE THEY ARE UNLEASHED IT IS NOT KNOWN IF THEY CAN BE CONTROLLED
THEY COULD CONTINUE THEIR RAMPAGE LONG AFTER THE WAR
BEEP BEEP
ANOTHER MESSAGE CAPTAIN!
DO THIS JUST BE MY LUCK, DAN!
DOT THE MAN WORLD NEED NOW!
PATCH IT THROUGH!
TO THE PIRATE SHIP "PALENDROM" THIS IS GENERAL MEDIA TUS OF THE INTERSTELLAR CONGLOMERATE, ASKING YOUR HELP. WE ESCORT US TO ACCESS ESRIL BACK TO HOME-WORLD. IN EXCHANGE YOU WILL BE GIVEN 50,000 CREDITS MANY VALUABLE PRIZES FOR THE CREW. A FULL PARDON AND THE RECIPE FOR ANGORIAN MOONPIE!
DO YOU HEAR THAT? ANGORIAN MOONPIE!

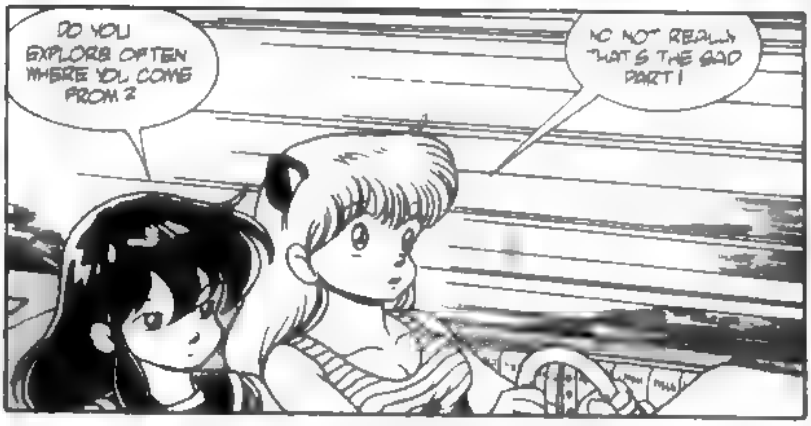
IF YOU ACCEPT PLEASE CONTACT THE NEAREST GALACTIC OUTPOST FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS!
NE STILE! PLOT A COURSE TO THE NEAREST OUTPOST!
WE'LL GO TO EARTH!
NOBEO I'M GENERAL!
I DONE FOR YOU SISTER
EEEHHAAA!!!
SHUUM
MST 3K

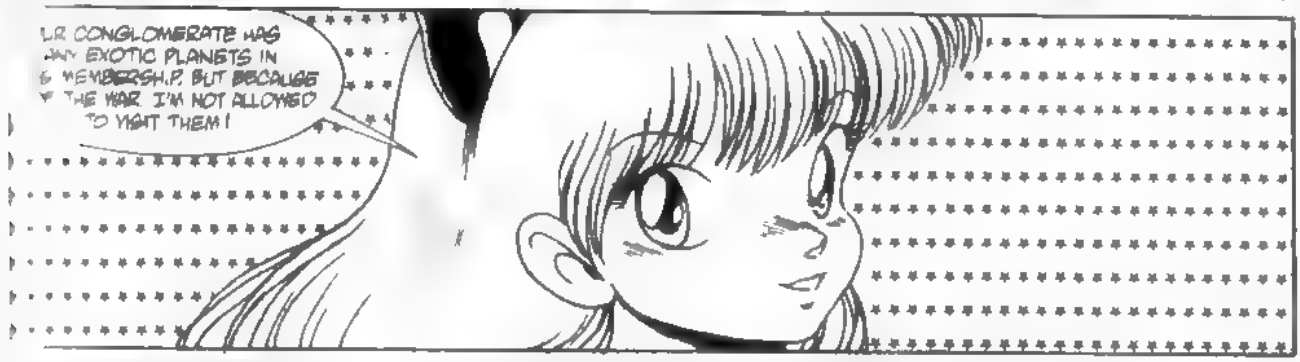

I TAKE T EASY THOSE CURVES, ASRAL!
YEAH!

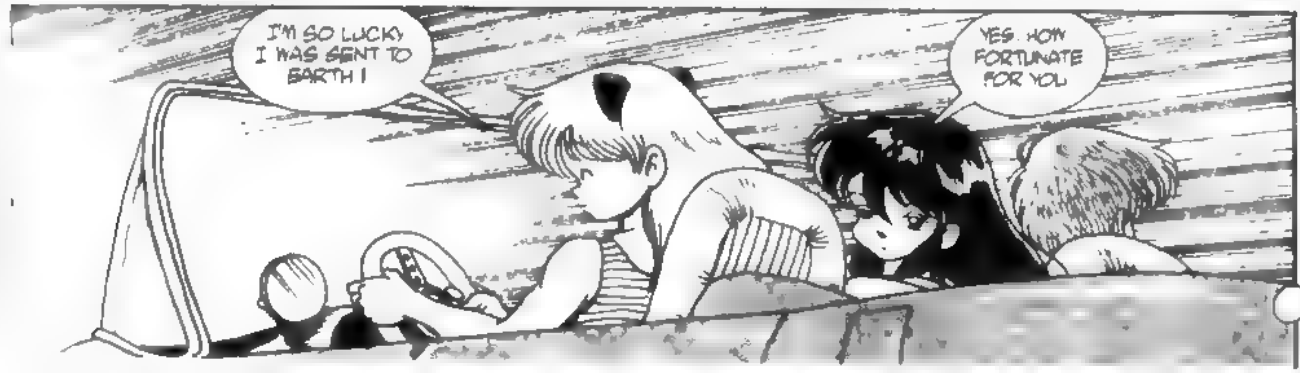
SORRY ABOUT THAT. IT'S JUST THAT I WANT TO INPUT ALL THIS GREAT DATA WE GOT ON THE FIELD TRIP TODAY ON MY COMPUTER!

I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS BEFORE!
SHEESH - I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE SO EXCITED BY HOMEWORK!

WELL, IT'S NOT OFTEN THAT I GET TO PARTICIPATE IN EARTHLIN DISCOVERIES! I LOVE EXPLORING!


DO YOU EXPLORE OFTEN WHERE YOU COME FROM?
NO NOT REALLY. THAT'S THE BAD PART!


LR CONGLOMERATE HAS MANY EXOTIC PLANETS IN ITS MEMBERSHIP. BUT BECAUSE OF THE WAR I'M NOT ALLOWED TO VISIT THEM!

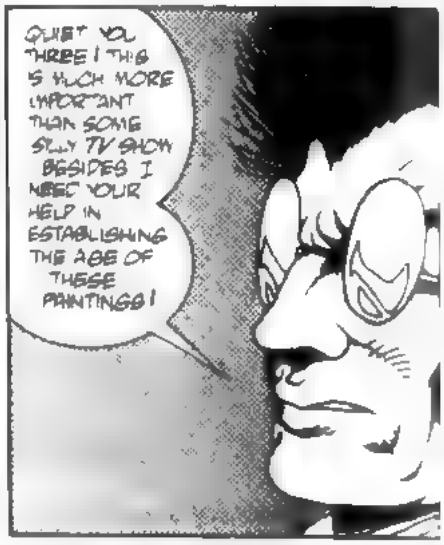

I'M SO LUCKY I WAS SENT TO EARTH!
YES. HOW FORTUNATE FOR YOU.

EEK!!

WATCH OUT!!

SO MIMI! YOU ALL RIGHT?
YES, THANK YOU. YOU REALLY OUGHT TO DRIVE MORE CAREFULLY!
AFTER ALL DRIVING IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT!
WHERE'D YOU GET YOUR LICENSE? OUT OF A CRACKER JACK BOX?
HUSH, DUMBBUB!
SO WHAT BRINGS YOU TO QUAGMIRE MIMI?
NOT MORE DEMONS,* I HOPE!
* SEE MHS #4 --Editor
NOT TO WORRY JEREMY! I DON'T THINK WE'LL SEE STANLEY FOR A WHILE!
GOOD!
ACTUALLY, I'M LOOKING FOR A HOUSE HERE SINCE I COME ERE SO OFTEN, I'D SAVE ON THE COMMUTE
BESIDES, I HEARD THE COST OF LIVING HERE IS VERY REASONABLE
IT IS, BUT THE INSURANCE IS MURDER!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING IN SUCH A HURRY?
HOME. WE JUST LEFT PROFESSOR STEAMHEAD AT AN ARCHEOLOGICAL DIG! IT WAS COOL!
OH, REALLY? COULD YOU TELL ME WHERE T S?
I'VE AN INTEREST IN OLD THINGS

FASCINATING
CAN WE GO NOW PROFESSOR?
YEAH! JEOPARDY STARTS IN TEN MINUTES!


QUIET YOU THREE! THIS IS MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAN SOME SILLY TV SHOW BESIDES I NEED YOUR HELP IN ESTABLISHING THE AGE OF THESE PAINTINGS!

I'D BE HAPPY TO HELP YOU PROFESSOR!
HEY! IS THAT MITCH CHICK!
OH YES!
SHE CAN CAST A SPELL ON ME ANYTIME!
AH BONJOUR MADAMOISELLE!

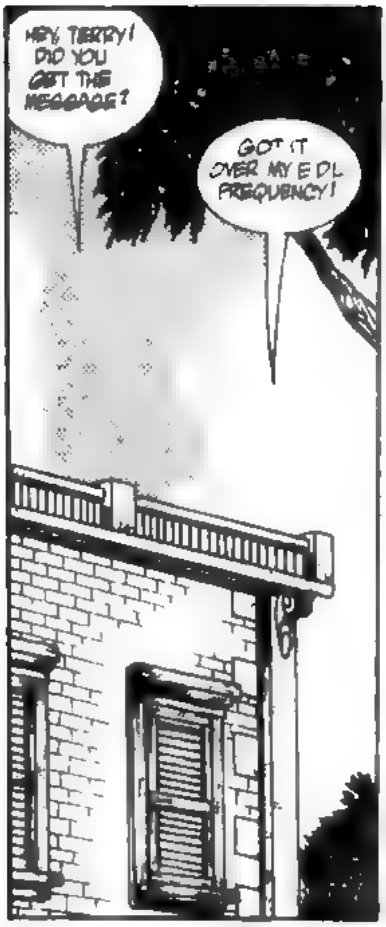
DO YOU HAVE ANY EXPERIENCE IN ARCHEOLOGY?
IT IS A HOBBY OF MINE

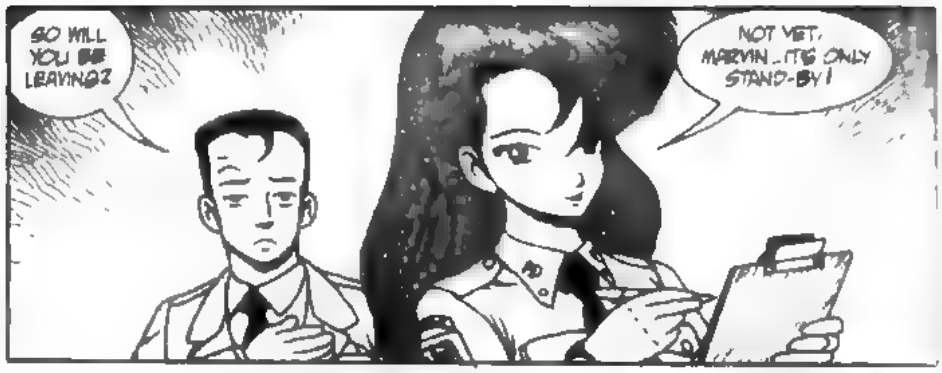
AS IT IS TIME
YOU MAY STAY

HAVE FOUND FOR Z
SOME ANCIENT HIEROGLYPHICS AND CAVE DRAWINGS!
HOW ODD WRITINGS AND DRAWINGS ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE FOUND TOGETHER.
'TIS AS IF A SOCIETY VERY ADVANCED, WERE FORCED HERE.
PROBABLY BY SOME GREAT DISASTER.
OR BY SOMETHING ELSE.
WHATEVER HAPPENED HERE TOOK PLACE THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO.
HEY!!
OH, BROGG!
WOULD YOU THREE TAKE THAT BABY OUTSIDE AND CHANGE HIM!
HUMPH! THE QUALITY OF STUDENTS GETS WORSE AND WORSE EVERY YEAR!
OH, PROFESSOR

*EARTH DEFENSE LEAGUE

MEANWHILE IN NEARBY GIBSONBURG
AT LAST! A CHANCE TO PROVE OUR WORTH ONCE MORE!
ONCE, WE WERE THE VANGUARD OF EARTH NOW WE CAN'T EVEN BUY A LIGHT BULB!
NO LONGER WILL WE BE DENIED!
THE GALAXY GUARDIANS WILL LIVE AGAIN!
HEY DAD! ARE YOU TALKING TO YOURSELF AGAIN?
I'LL BET YOU FORGOT YOUR MEDICATION AGAIN!
JOE!
THE DAY HAS FINALLY COME! THE E.R.L. HAS CALLED!
YOU WILL PILOT X-R2!!
?!

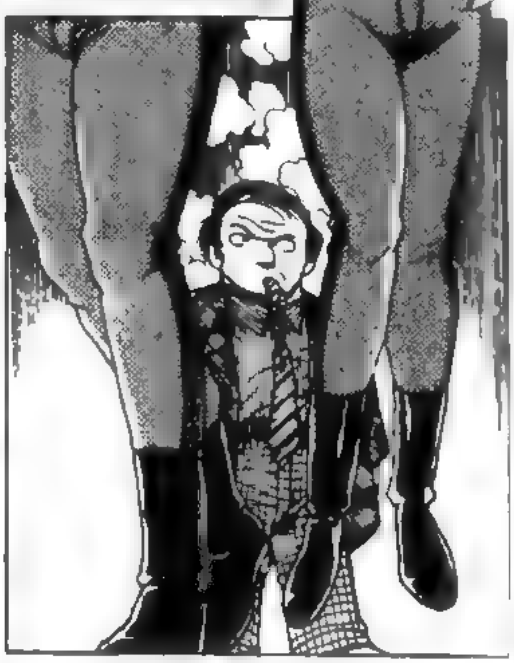

HEY, TERRY! DID YOU GET THE MESSAGE?
GOT IT OVER MY E.D.L FREQUENCY!


SO WILL YOU BE LEAVING?
NOT YET, MARVIN... IT'S ONLY STAND-BY!

WELL, I HOPE YOU DO STAY!
WHY, THANK YOU, MARVIN
WANTED

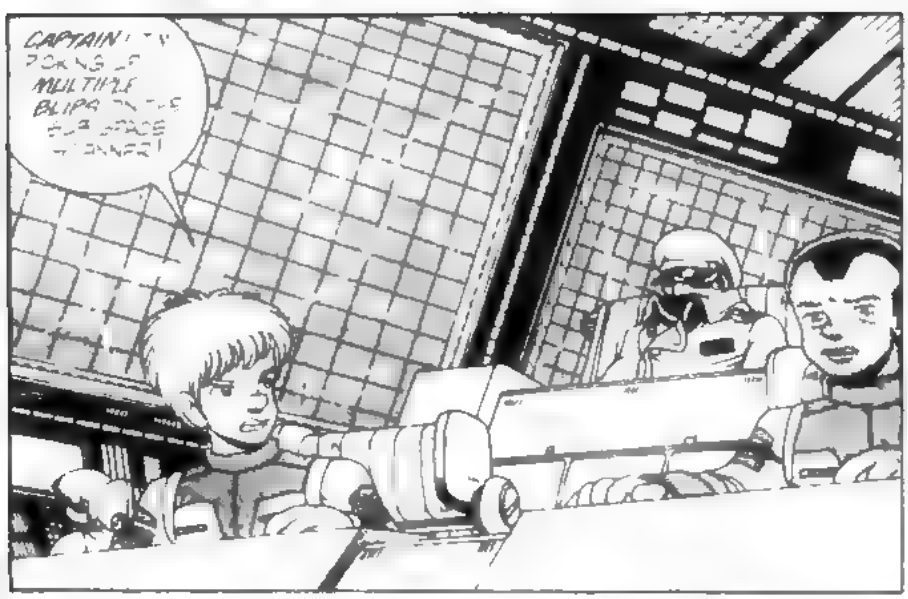
BUT IF DUTY CALLS, IT'S MY OBLIGATION TO GO EVEN IF I WANT TO STAY!

WHAT DO YOU THINK IS GOING ON?
HARD TO SAY, CARL... BUT THE E.D.L. WOULDN'T PUT ALL MEMBERS ON STAND-BY FOR NO REASON
WELL... I'M GOING TO CHANGE

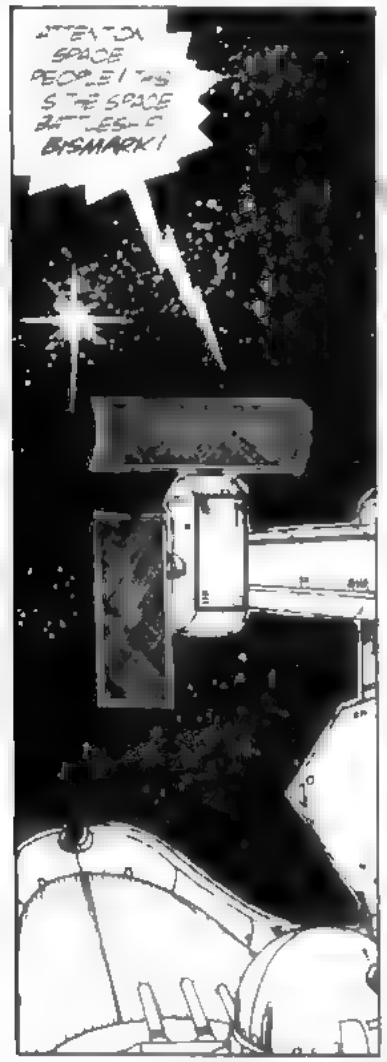


GIRLS IN UNIFORMS REALLY TURN ME ON!
CARL! SUCH IMPURE THOUGHTS!

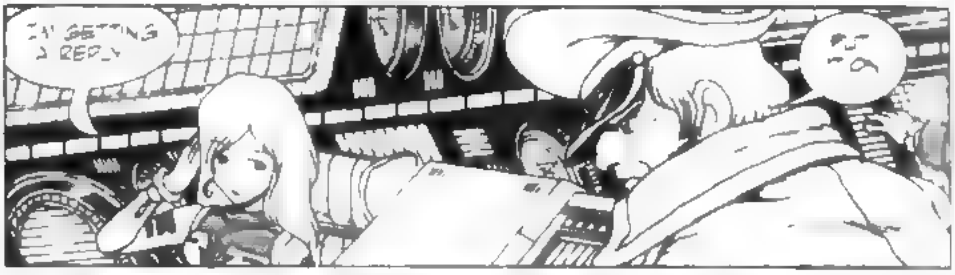
MAC ANDIS?
LET'S GO HOME AND WORRY ABOUT THAT!
THE MAN WHO WENT TO TOKYO ROBO WORLD
NO BUT I'M EXPECTING A PHONE CALL FROM PROFESSOR SOZAI
I'M SURE MATTERBORG IS THERE BEHIND DON ANDIS!
I'M SURE HOPE GOLD GOT SOMEWHERE TONIGHT!
VVVVOOOOOOOO


CAPTAIN!
MULTIPLE

EDF
THAT THEY ARE
ENTERING EARTH
SPACE AND THEY
ARE TO TURN
AROUND AT
ONCE


SPACE
PEOPLE!
BISMARK!

Wooo
Wooo


GETTING
A REPLY

SURRENDER AT ONCE
OR WE'LL BE FORCED
TO DESTROY YOU!

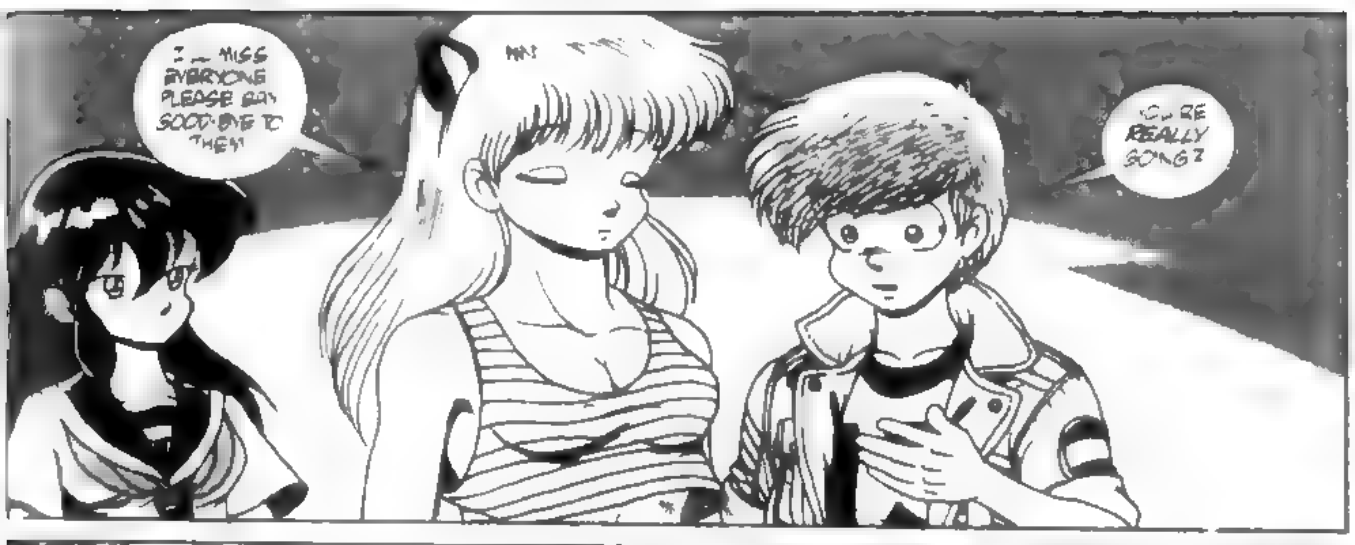
GRRRR!
FIRE THE
COSMIC
CANNON!

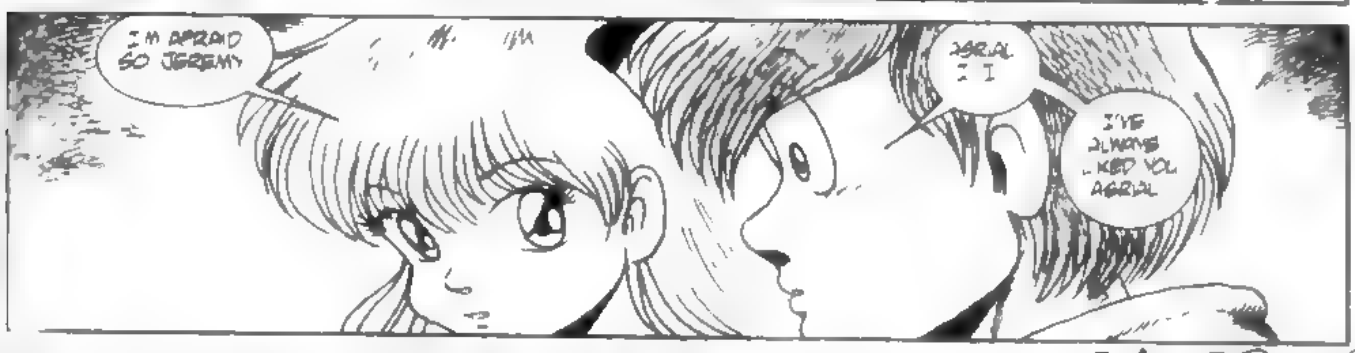
SSSHHHH...
KA-HOOM!
YAH!!
ALL RIGHT!!
WHAT?
FIRE ALL WEAPONS!

TOO LATE!!
KRASH!
WHOOM
TARGET IS DESTROYED WITH PRECISSI
GOOD WE'LL PROCEED!

WELCOME BACK PRINCESS!
BAKA! BAKA! ARE YOU ALL WITH GARS?
WE'VE BEEN ORDERED BACK BY IMPERIAL COMMAND AND YOU MUST COME WITH US!
AGAIN! YOU'RE GOING HOME!
YES
YES MY PRINCESS!

I REGRET TO REPORT THAT A ZARCON ATTACK SQUADRON HAS DESTROYED MY ORDERS ARE TO TAKE YOU TO SAFETY!
I SUPPOSE FATHER EXPECTS ME TO JUST ABANDON MY FRIENDS!
WELL, THAT MAKES THE PLAN
PRINCESS BE REASONABLE THEY'RE NOT EARTHLINGS
MAYBE NOT BUT THEY ARE MY FRIENDS AND THAT MEANS MORE THAN THE TYPE OF SPECIES THEY ARE!
WE BROUGHT THIS WAR TO THEM! I CANNOT SEE THE JUSTICE IN LEAVING THEM TO THEIR FATE!
PRINCESS! YOU ARE DUTY-BOUND!
DO NOT MAKE US FORCE YOU!
WOULD YOU?
I'M SORRY MY PRINCESS
DUTY AND HONOR! FATHER KNOWS WELL WHAT A BURDEN THEY CAN BE
I MUST GO


I ... MISS EVERYONE PLEASE BUT SOOD-BYE TO THEM
YOU'RE REALLY GOING?


I'M AFRAID SO JEREMY
ASRIAL ... I
I'VE ALWAYS LIKED YOU ASRIAL

WE HAD MANY WONDERFUL TIMES TOGETHER DIDN'T WE JEREMY?

TAKE CARE JEREMY BE GOOD TO CHI
GOOD-BYE!
3-GOOD-BYE ASRIAL!
OKAY, YOU TWO! TIME TO GO!
YOU KNOW THE WAY OUT!

WHAT ARE YOU THINKING OF?
I'VE GOT AN IDEA!
ALL SYSTEMS ARE GO! PREPARE FOR LIFT OFF!
SSHHRREEE!!
GOOD-BYE MY FRIENDS
WOOSH!

WE'VE ACHIEVED ESCAPE VELOCITY!
WHAT'S VEGTOR?
I HAVE A SLIGHT ANOMALY IN THE WEIGHT RATIO!
NO NOT REALLY
THEN DON'T BOTHER ME!
PLEASE DO NOT CALL AGAIN UNLESS THE REALLY SERIOUS!
I NEVER KNEW SHE WOULD BE SO HURT

CURSE THIS WAR FOR TEARING UP THE PRINCESS! I WOULD GIVE ANYTHING TO MAKE HER HAPPY
JUMP SPEED READY!
WAIT! I'M PICKING UP A HUGE OBJECT COMING TOWARD US!
VREEET! VREEET!
IS COMING FROM THE FAR SIDE OF THE MOON!
OF ALL THE ITS IN OUR TRAJECTORY!
RUMBLE
WHAT WAS THAT?
LONG RANGE TRACTOR BEAM! IS LOCKED ON TO US!
TRY TO RE ENERGIZE POWER!
NOT ENOUGH POWER!
THEN WE'RE CAPTURED!

RUSSIAN SHIP IS CAPTURED!
EXCELLENT! TOW IT IN!
THEY ARE NOW PRISONERS
OF THE ZARDON EMPIRE!
TO BE CONTINUED

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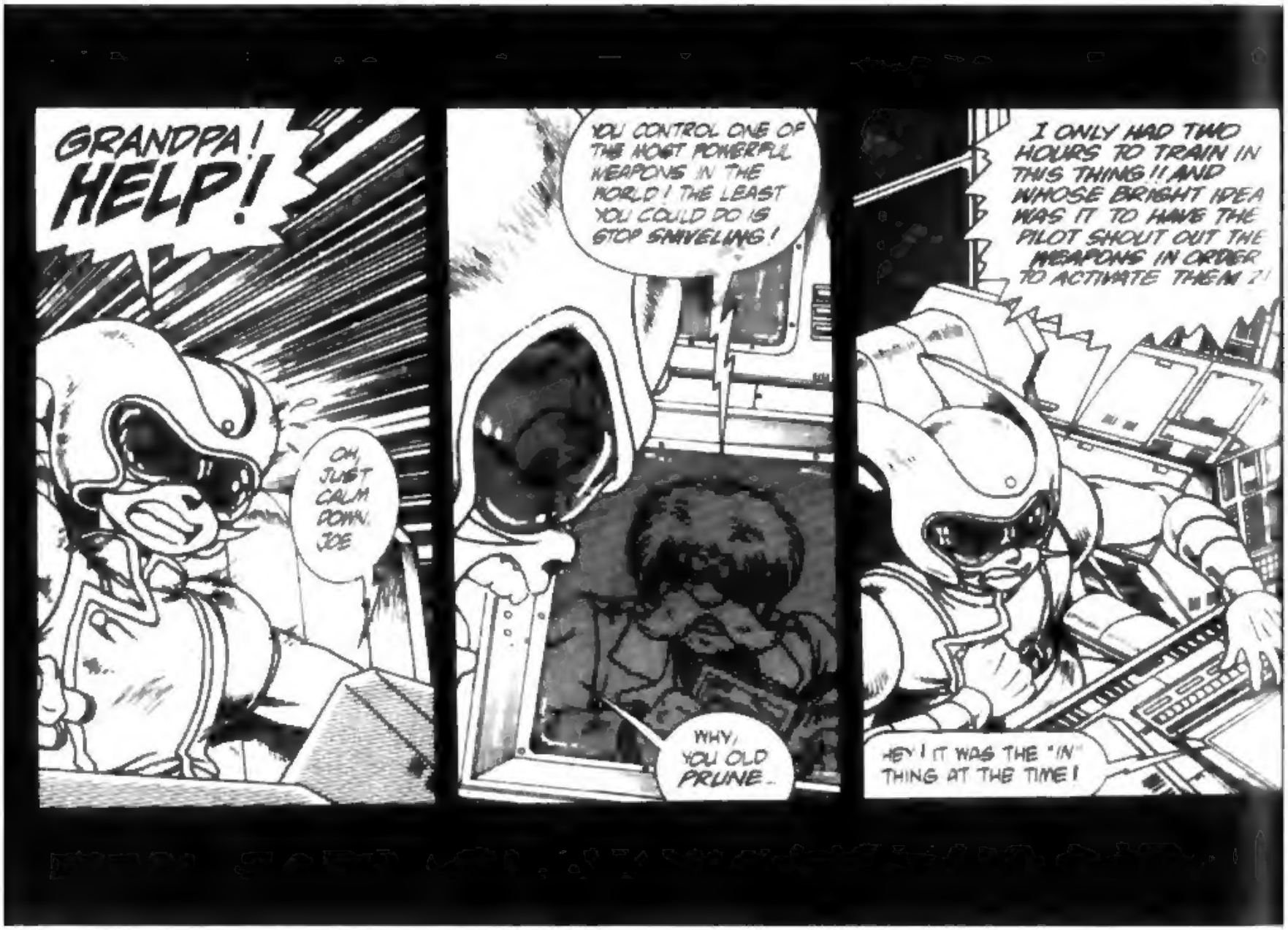
The Salusian Empire's attempts to protect Asrial fail when she is captured by the Zardons, who then attack Earth with hordes of giant monsters! While Mimi Masters, the EDL, the Zetramen, and the mighty XR-2 struggle on the home front, Jeremy and Ichi infiltrate the Zardon flagship to try and save Asrial. But if Mimi's premonition comes true, then before this invasion is through, someone near and dear to the good guys will die!



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